

FULL
68 PAGES

AMAZING STORIES



NO
57

Sinister TALES

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"THE MAN IN THE
CELLAR!"

THERE WAS ONE TROUBLE WITH JIM WARD'S AMAZING INVENTION... HE COULD THINK OF NO WAY TO PROVE IT WOULD WORK! AND YET THERE WAS A WAY, ASTONISHINGLY SIMPLE, BUT DARING... AND IT BROUGHT JIM FAME AND WEALTH IN ONE BRIEF INSTANT!

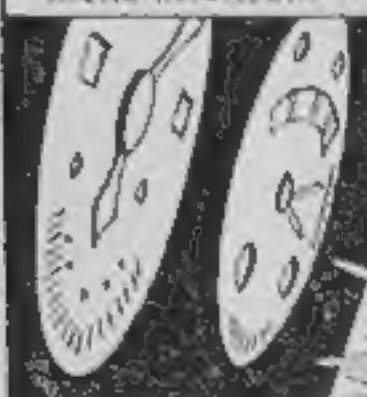
THE MAN IN THE CELLAR



AS HE HAD BEEN DOING NIGHTLY FOR TWO YEARS, JIM WARD UNLOCKED THE LEAD-LINED ROOM HE HAD BUILT IN THE CELLAR AND MADE SOME CHANGES ON HIS SUPERB INVENTION...



HE THREW A SWITCH! THERE CAME A HIGH-PITCHED HUM FROM THE MACHINE! A GOTT RAY EMANATED FROM IT, GRADUALLY GROWING MORE INTENSE...



IT WORKS ONLY IN PART! THAT GUINEA PIG IS ON THE VERGE OF VANISHING, BUT THAT'S AS FAR AS IT GOES!



IT WAS MIDNIGHT WHEN JIM CAME FROM HIS CELLAR LABORATORY, HAGGARD, HALF-DAZED FROM HIS LONG HOURS OF LABOR...



TIME, VERA... THAT'S ALL I NEED! I HAVE NO RIGHT TO DEPRIVE YOU OF MY COMPANY!

JIM, I'VE BEEN THINKING... WE HAVE SOME MONEY SAVED! YOU COULD MAKE ENOUGH FOR US TO LIVE ON IF YOU WERE TO TAKE A PART-TIME JOB!

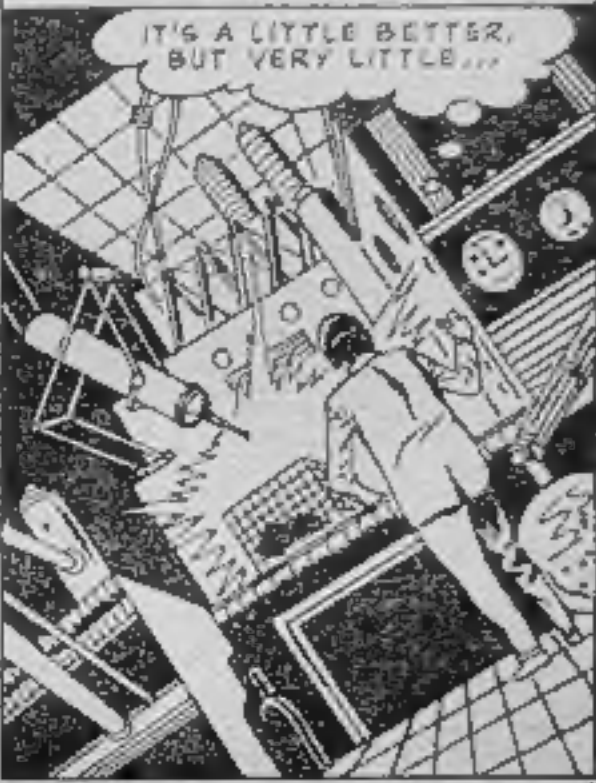
JIM TOOK VERA INTO HIS ARMS, AND HIS EYES GLITTERED... HIS VOICE SOUNDED HUSKY...



VERA, I CAN'T LET YOU SACRIFICE ANY MORE!

YOU'RE DOING IT FOR US, JIM! I WANT YOU TO TAKE A PART-TIME JOB SO YOU CAN PUT MORE TIME IN ON YOUR INVENTION!

JIM SPENT ONLY THREE DAYS A WEEK THEREAFTER, EARNING A LIVING... BUT HE DROVE HIMSELF HARDER THAN EVER TO FINISH HIS MACHINE...



IT'S A LITTLE BETTER, BUT VERY LITTLE...

THE GUINEA PIG FADES JUST SO FAR... BUT THE MOMENT I TURN OFF THE RAY, IT'S RIGHT BACK! IF ONLY...



JIM!

VERA! I'VE TOLD YOU NEVER TO ENTER THIS ROOM! THAT RAY IS DANGEROUS!



YOU'VE NEVER LET ME SEE HOW IT WORKS, DEAR! AT LEAST, LET ME SEE WHAT YOU'VE ACCOMPLISHED SO FAR!

YES, I GUESS YOU DESERVE THAT MUCH! YOU SEE, I'VE COME A LONG WAY! YET, UNLESS THAT ANIMAL VANISHES COMPLETELY, MY RAY IS A FAILURE!



IT'LL WORK SOMEDAY, JIM! I KNOW IT WILL!



I'VE LET YOU AND THE CHILDREN DOWN, VERA! THERE'S NO OTHER WAY FOR ME BUT TO TAKE A FULL-TIME JOB. MAYBE IN FIVE YEARS MY RAY WILL BE ACCEPTED BY THE WORLD!

FIVE LONG YEARS!

JIM WARD WENT BACK TO EARNING A LIVING FOR HIS FAMILY! IN HIS SPARE TIME, HE KEPT WORKING ON HIS RAY MACHINE! THEN, ONE SATURDAY MORNING...



VERA... I'M BACK! I'VE GOT THE PART I NEEDED! VERA? BOBBY! BETTY! SHE'S LEFT ME... TAKEN THE CHILDREN WITH HER!



HEARTBROKEN, ENRAGED AT THE MACHINE THAT HAD DEPRIVED HIM OF HIS FAMILY, HE WENT TO THE CELLAR TO SMASH IT...

WITHOUT HESITATION, JIM EXPOSED HIMSELF TO THE BRIGHT RED RAY! IT BEGAN AT ONCE TO FADE FROM HIS VISION...

ONLY AN INSTANT WENT BY, BUT THE MIRACULOUS RED RAY BROUGHT JIM TEN YEARS INTO THE FUTURE, WHERE VERA, BOB AND BETTY ANXIOUSLY AWAITED HIS ARRIVAL...

MY TIME-RAY IS TURNED ON!... I DIDN'T LEAVE IT ON!... A NOTE! "MY DARLING JIM... BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS, THE CHILDREN AND I WILL HAVE EXPOSED OURSELVES TO YOUR RAY! WE'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU TEN YEARS IN THE FUTURE... LOVE, VERA..."

I'M ON MY WAY, VERA! I'LL BE WITH YOU IN A MOMENT!

OH, JIM! I KNEW THERE MUST BE A WAY!



YOU SEE, MY DARLING, I HAD MORE CONFIDENCE IN YOU THAN YOU HAD IN YOURSELF! THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T ASK YOUR PERMISSION TO USE THE MACHINE! YOU'D NEVER HAVE ALLOWED IT!

ALL THIS WEALTH, THIS MANSION... IS IT ALL OURS?

OF COURSE IT'S OURS, JIM! REMEMBER, THIS IS TEN YEARS IN THE FUTURE! YOUR TIME-RAY MACHINE HAS BEEN ON THE MARKET FOR FIVE YEARS NOW! YOU'RE A GREAT SUCCESS! BUT THERE'S NO TIME TO TALK ABOUT THAT NOW, DEAR! YOU'RE DUE AT A BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AT YOUR FACTORY!



THIS IS THE STORY OF CARL TERRELL, A MAN WHO WAS STRANGELY DIFFERENT THAN YOU AND I! HE WAS A LONELY MAN AS ARE ALL WHO ARE DIFFERENT! HE WAS A MAN APART AND... AFRAID! AND AS YOU READ HIS STORY, FIND SOME COMPASSION IN YOUR HEART FOR THIS MAN, FOR IN THIS CENTURY OF CHANGE, WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM, CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE... EVEN YOU!

HE MUST BE DESTROYED



HE HAD RUN THEN... RUN AWAY FROM THE TOWN...



UNTHINKING, HE LOOKED AT THE ASHTRAY ACROSS THE ROOM, WILLING IT TO HIM... AND IT CAME!



THEN THE VOICE CAME, QUIVERING IN HIS MIND, AT FIRST FAINT, THEN GAINING IN STRENGTH, SEEMING TO BE PART OF THE ATOMS FLOATING IN THE AIR...



THE LONELINESS GREW WITH EACH PASSING DAY! AND EACH DAY THE POWERS GREW GREATER! HE COULD CONTROL THE ACTIONS OF PEOPLE, READ THEIR THOUGHTS...

AT NIGHT, ALONE IN HIS ROOM, HE FELT THAT HE COULD ENDURE IT NO LONGER...





BOONETOWN WAS ONLY AN HOUR'S DRIVE AWAY! HAPPINESS RAN THROUGH CARL, BUBBLING UP IN HIM...



HE DROVE INTO THE CITY! THE STREETS WERE DESERTED EXCEPT FOR POLICEMEN AND A NEWS VENDOR...





THEN SUDDENLY CARL STOPPED RUNNING! HE TURNED, DETERMINATION MOLDING HIS FACE TO GRIMNESS!



A SHADOW FORMED AT THE END OF THE ALLEY! FIERCELY, CARL PROJECTED HIS POWERS AGAINST IT, HIS WILL AGAINST THE WILL OF THE OTHER MUTANT... HIS STRANGE MENTAL STRENGTH AGAINST JUSTIN FORD'S EVIL POWER!



IT WAS OVER! SIGHING, HE TURNED AND WALKED INTO THE NIGHT! NO MORE WOULD HE BE LONELY... NOW HE COULD FACE THE WORLD, AND LIVE WITHOUT BEING DIFFERENT, FOR NOW HE WAS NOT APART FROM OTHER MEN!



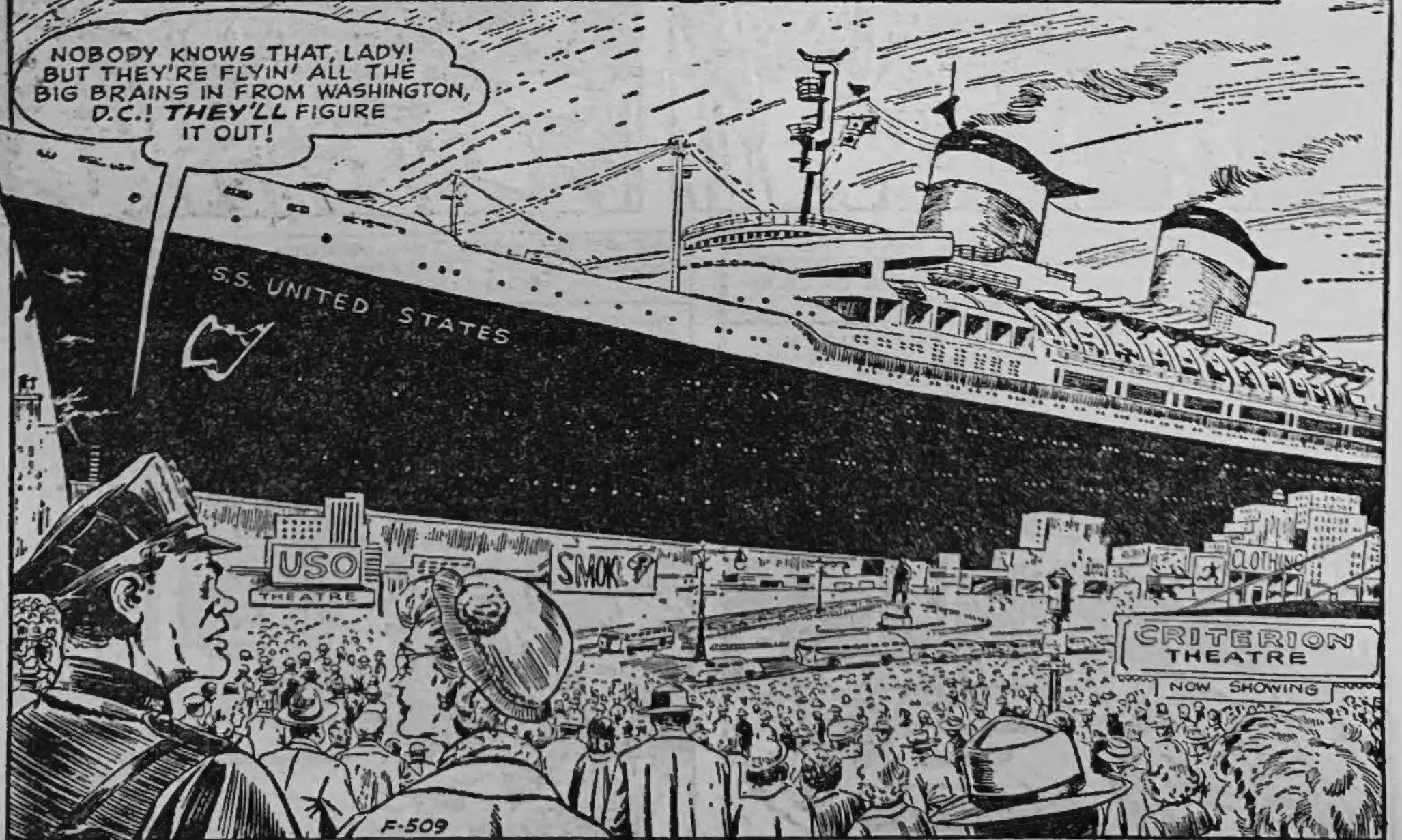
GONE... BUT NOT FORGOTTEN!

THIS IS APRIL 16, 1958! NEW YORK CITY IS IN A TURMOIL! A BAFFLING INCIDENT HAS DISRUPTED THIS GREAT METROPOLIS! BUSINESS AND TRAFFIC ARE AT A STANDSTILL! CROWDS GATHER TO STARE AT THE SIGHT! POLICE, NATIONAL GUARD, THE ARMY, NAVY AND MARINES ARE ENDEAVORING TO PREVENT PANIC! AS YET, MARTIAL LAW HAS NOT BEEN DECLARED...



THE NEWSPAPERS, THE RADIO, TELEVISION, THE RESIDENTS OF NEW YORK CITY... AND THE PEOPLE OF EVERY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD ASK THE SAME BAFFLING QUESTION WHICH DEFIES AN ANSWER... HOW DID THE LINER "THE UNITED STATES" GET IN THE MIDDLE OF **TIMES SQUARE?**"

NOBODY KNOWS THAT, LADY! BUT THEY'RE FLYIN' ALL THE BIG BRAINS IN FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.! THEY'LL FIGURE IT OUT!



THE NATION'S MOST
BRILLIANT SCIENTISTS
STUDY THE SITUATION...



ENGINEERS LOOK IT
OVER FROM ALL ANGLES...



MATHEMATICIANS WORK
ON THE PROBLEM...



EVEN MAGICIANS ARE
SUMMONED TO GIVE
THEIR OPINION...



FOR TWO DAYS, THE SCIENTISTS, MATHEMATICIANS
AND MAGICIANS COMPARE NOTES AND THE WORLD
TENSELY AWAIT'S THEIR ANSWER! AT 2:30 TODAY,
APRIL 19, 1958, THE NATION'S GENIUSES ISSUE A
JOINT REPLY...



SO WORK STARTS ON DISMANTLING THE GIANT
LINER, AND THE REMARK HEARD GENERALLY
AROUND THE CITY NOW IS...



BUT NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE
TRUTH, BECAUSE ON APRIL 20TH, THAT'S TODAY,
NEW YORKERS OF THE BOROUGH OF THE BRONX,
ARE STARTLED BY A SHOCKING SIGHT...



AND AT THE SAME TIME, ACROSS THE RIVER IN
BROOKLYN, THE CITIZENS OF THAT BOROUGH ARE
EQUALLY SURPRISED...



MARTIAL LAW IS ESTABLISHED IMMEDIATELY AS A PRECAUTION TO AVERT THE THREAT OF TROUBLE BETWEEN THE TWO BOROUGHES...



AND PERHAPS TROUBLE WOULD HAVE BROKEN OUT, BUT THIS BUILDING PREVENTS IT!



THE PEOPLE OF THE BRONX AND BROOKLYN FORGET ALL ABOUT THEIR TROUBLES, AFTER THIS ANNOUNCEMENT!

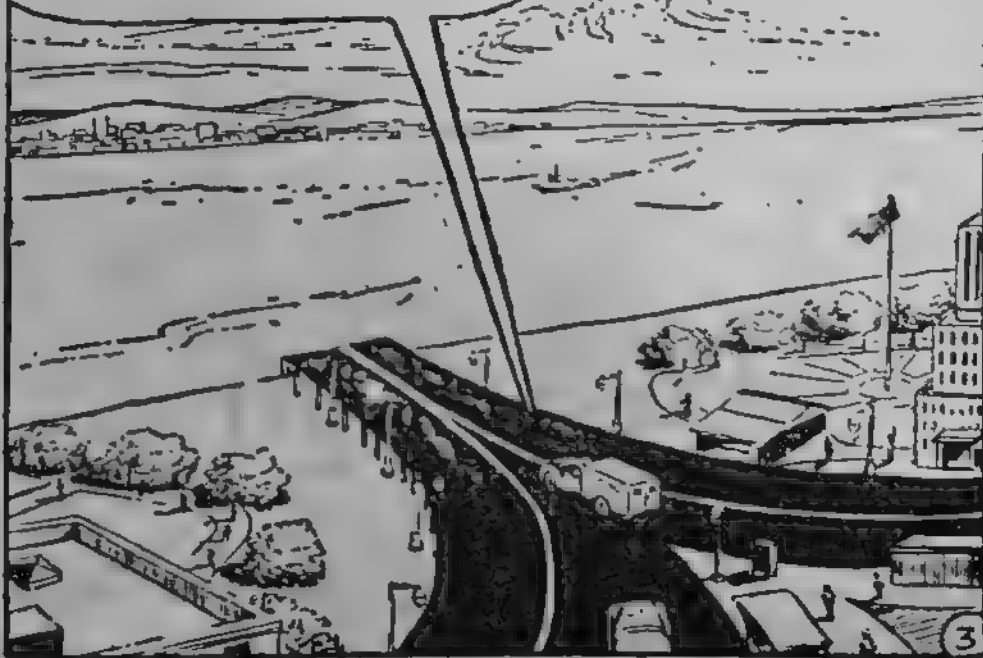


EVERY NATION ON EARTH COMES TO THE BIG CITY'S AID! THEY SEND THEIR MOST LEARNED MEN TO HELP SOLVE THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE WORLD'S HIGHEST BUILDING! BUT AFTER DAYS OF DELIBERATION AND ARGUMENTS, THEY HAVE THIS TO SAY...



NO MATTER HOW THEY SAY IT, IT ALL MEANS THE SAME THING... **THEY DON'T KNOW!** AND WHILE THEY SHRUG THEIR SHOULDERS, A TRUCK DRIVER ABOUT TO CROSS GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE MAKES AN ASTOUNDING DISCOVERY...

IT'S NOT HERE! I CAME OVER IT THIS MORNING, BUT NOW THE BRIDGE IS **GONE!**





AND ON SUNDAY MORNING, AN EXCITED GUIDE FROM THE EXCURSION BOAT TO BEDLOE'S ISLAND TELLS A STRANGE STORY...

NOW SIMMER DOWN, MIKE, AND REPEAT WHAT YOU'VE JUST TOLD US!

LIKE I SAID... I WAS SHOWIN' THE TOURISTS A VIEW OF THE CITY'S SKY-LINE, WHILE WE WERE ON THE WAY TO THE ISLAND!

OH-H, THAT'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SIGHT IN THE WORLD!

NOT QUITE, LADY!

TURN AROUND AND YOU'LL REALLY SEE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SIGHT IN THE WORLD!

WHERE?

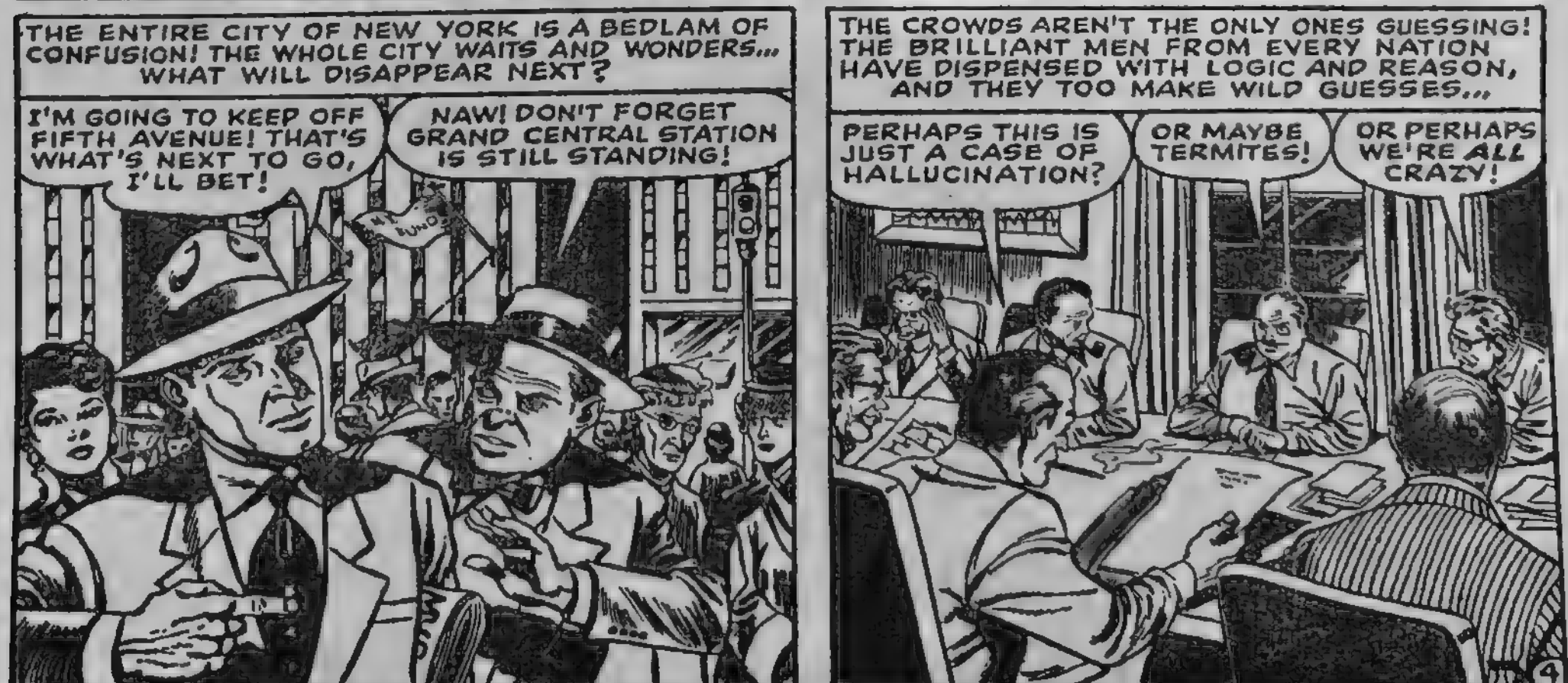


(GULP!) YIPES! IT WAS THERE JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO!

WE BOUGHT TICKETS TO SEE THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, AND NOW YOU'RE TRYING TO TELL US IT'S GONE! YOU CAN'T FOOL US!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO! WE'VE BEEN GETTING REPORTS LIKE THAT ALL MORNING!

HERE'S ANOTHER ONE, SARGE! THIS ONE SAYS THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART HAS BEEN STOLEN!



THE ENTIRE CITY OF NEW YORK IS A BEDLAM OF CONFUSION! THE WHOLE CITY WAITS AND WONDERS... WHAT WILL DISAPPEAR NEXT?

I'M GOING TO KEEP OFF FIFTH AVENUE! THAT'S WHAT'S NEXT TO GO, I'LL BET!

NOW! DON'T FORGET GRAND CENTRAL STATION IS STILL STANDING!

THE CROWDS AREN'T THE ONLY ONES GUESSING! THE BRILLIANT MEN FROM EVERY NATION HAVE DISPENSED WITH LOGIC AND REASON, AND THEY TOO MAKE WILD GUESSES...

PERHAPS THIS IS JUST A CASE OF HALLUCINATION?

OR MAYBE TERMITES!

OR PERHAPS WE'RE ALL CRAZY!

THE WISE MEN OF THE WORLD ARE STUMPED!
THAT'S WHAT THE AFTERNOON PAPERS SAY
IN DISMAL BLACK HEADLINES...

AN' IF THOSE GUYS
DON'T KNOW HOW
AND WHERE THE
MISSING LANDMARKS
DISAPPEARED TO,
THEN **NOBODY**
IN THIS WORLD
KNOWS!

YEAH! WHAT'S BEEN
HAPPENIN' IS SURE
OUTA THIS WORLD!



THAT MAN DOESN'T KNOW WHAT A MOUTHFUL
HE HAS JUST SPOUTED, BECAUSE AT THAT VERY
MOMENT, ON A PLANET **OUT OF THIS WORLD**, A
LITTLE BOY IS BEING PUNISHED BY HIS MOTHER...

NOW WHAT'S
JUNIOR DONE,
DEAR?

OH, IT'S THE SAME OLD
THING! I'VE TOLD HIM
A THOUSAND TIMES TO
STAY IN HIS OWN BACK
YARD, BUT HE DOESN'T
OBEY ME!



HE INSISTS ON SNEAKING
OFF TO THAT AWFUL PLACE
ACROSS THE SPACE TRACTS
CALLED EARTH... AND HE
KEEPS BRINGING BACK
ALL THIS KIND OF JUNK
TO PLAY WITH!

HE'S RETURNED
SOME OF IT... NOW I
WANT HIM TO BRING
THE **REST** BACK,
BEFORE HE CLUTTERS
UP THE WHOLE HOUSE!



SHEEPSKIN SLEUTH



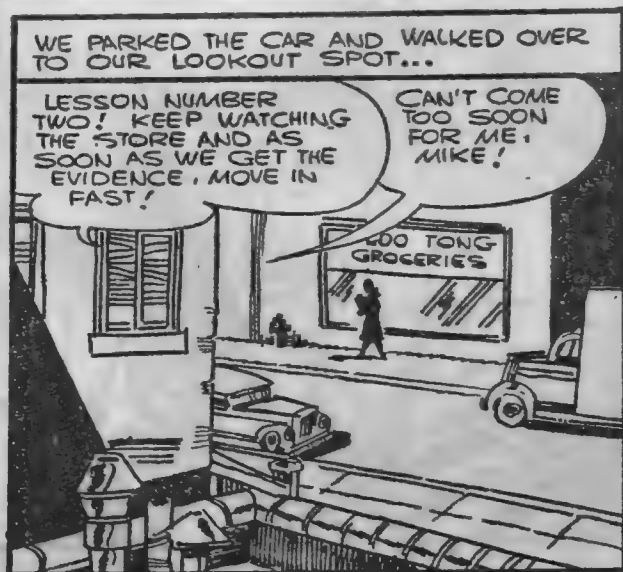
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WELL, MIKE! HOW'S THAT COLLEGE KID PARTNER OF YOURS SHAPING UP? STILL WAITING TO SOLVE HIS FIRST CASE?

JIM'S ALL RIGHT! DOING A FINE JOB! HE'LL BE RUNNING THIS DEPARTMENT SOME DAY-- MARK MY WORDS!

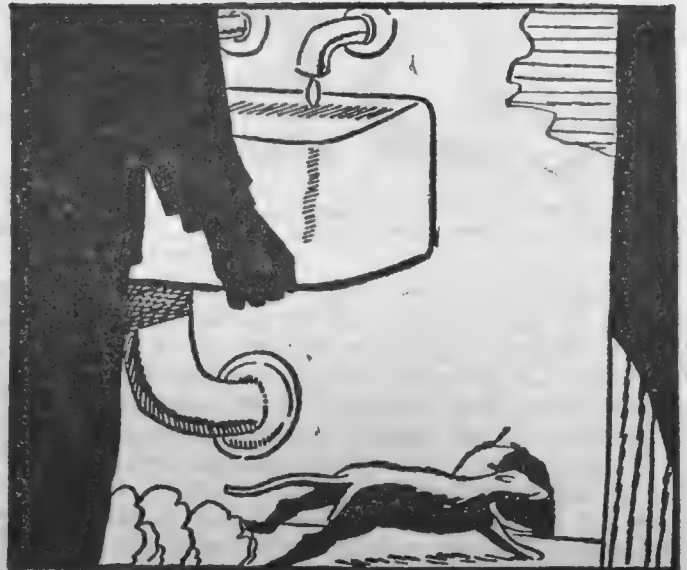
YOU'RE SINGING A DIFFERENT TUNE, MIKE! I REMEMBER WHEN HE FIRST SHOWED UP-- YOU BLEW YOUR STACK!

AND WOULDN'T YOU? HOW WOULD YOU FEEL, GETTING A COLLEGE BOY FRESH OUT OF THE ACADEMY DUMPED IN YOUR LAP RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A BIG DIAMOND CASE? JIM HIT ME JUST AS I GOT A LEAD ON LOO TONG!









The End,

THE TWO BOYS WHOSE HERE ARE NOT REPLY ON MARS! THEY ARE IN ACTING A DREAM. THE
 ABOUT THE TWO BOYS WHOSE HERE ARE NOT REPLY ON MARS! THEY ARE IN ACTING A DREAM. THE
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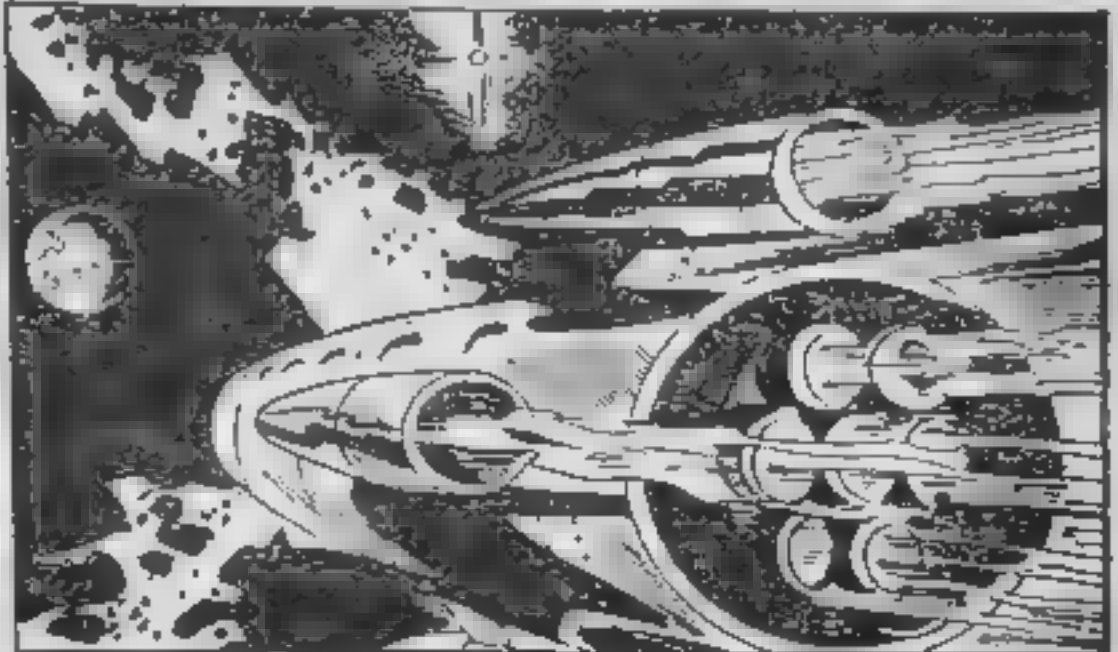
HOMECOMING



AW, YOU'RE ALWAYS THINKING OF EVERYBODY ELSE! ME I JUST WANT TO HELP ME TO GLORY! I WANT TO BE THE BIGGEST GUY THE WORLD EVER SAW!



TWO MOVES! FOURTEEN YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE PHIL AND JAY PLAYED THEIR GAME. A SHIP BATTERED AND GREY MOVES IN OUTER SPACE APPROACHING THE GREEN BALL OF EARTH!



THE SHIP IS RETURNING FROM MARS. THE FIRST SPACESHIP FROM EARTH EVER TO REACH AN OUTER PLANET!



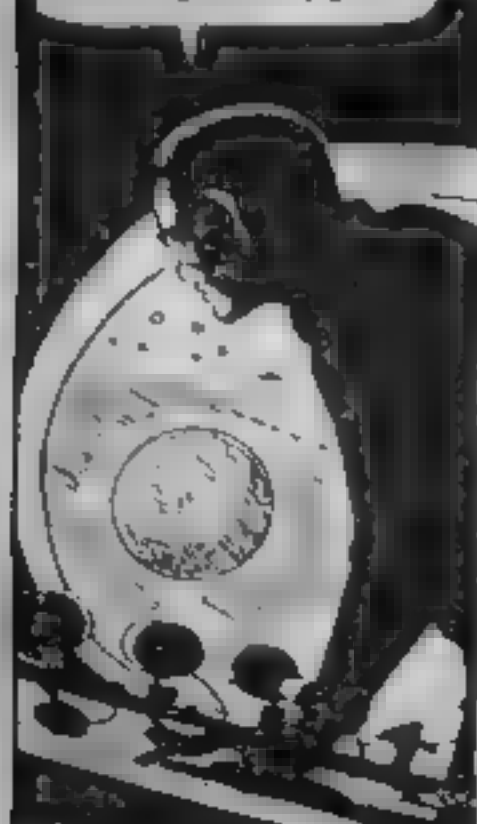
NO USE! THE RADIO IS FINISHED! CAN'T CONTACT EARTH!

STILL NOT UP TO PAR! THAT VIRUS I CONTRACTED ON MARS... SOMETHING WE HADN'T FIGURED ON! WE HAD NO DRUGS TO COUNTERACT IT!

THIS MAN IS PHIL COMPTON... ONE OF THE LITTLE BOYS YOU SAW. A BOY WHO GREW INTO THE FULFILLMENT OF A DREAM!



EARTH! AFTER THREE LONG YEARS IN SPACE AND ON MARS ALL THOSE LONG YEARS OF TRAINING, ALL THE LONELINESS ON AN ALIEN PLANET! NOW WE'RE COMING HOME!



HOMIE!
EARTH!
HOMIE!

TAKE IT EASY! YOU SHOULDN'T TRY TO GET UP...



HOMIE!
EARTH!

YES, WE'LL BE HOME SOON! GO TO SLEEP! WHEN YOU WAKE UP, WE'LL BE HOME!



DELIRIOUS THAT HAD A FEVER. HE WANTED TO GET BACK TO EARTH. LOOK AT HIM. TARENT. HE'S A VIRUS. HE'S A VIRUS. HE'S A VIRUS.



IT WAS ALL GLORY FOR HIM. HE WAS THE FIRST TO REACH THE PORT. HE WAS THE FIRST TO REACH THE PORT. HE WAS THE FIRST TO REACH THE PORT.



IT WAS DARK WHEN THE SHIP LANDED. HE HADN'T BEEN ABLE TO CONTACT THE GROUND BUT RADAR HAD PICKED HIM UP AND MEN WERE RUNNING OUT ON THE FIELD AS THE DOOR OPENED.



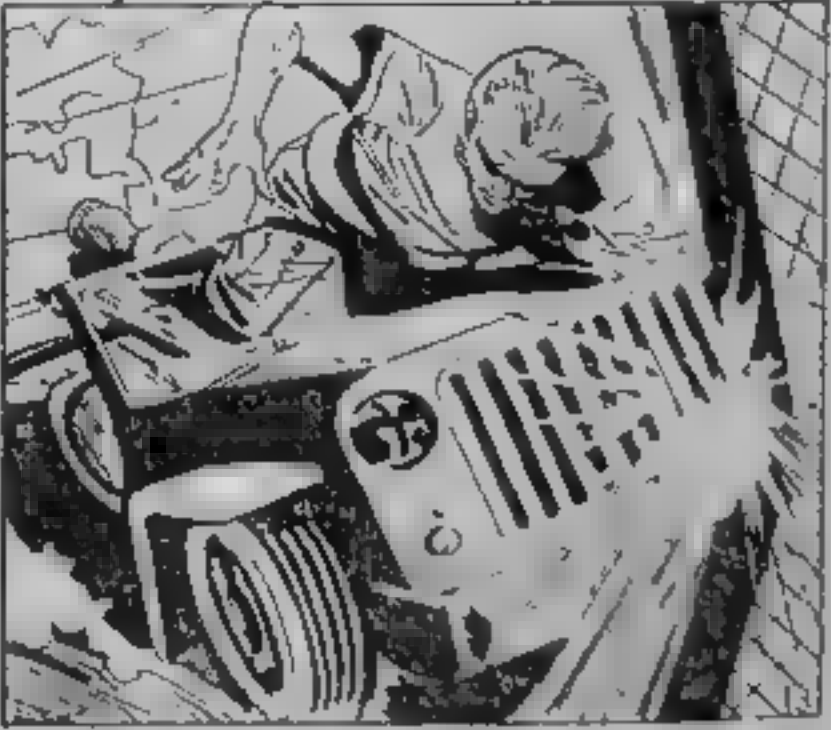
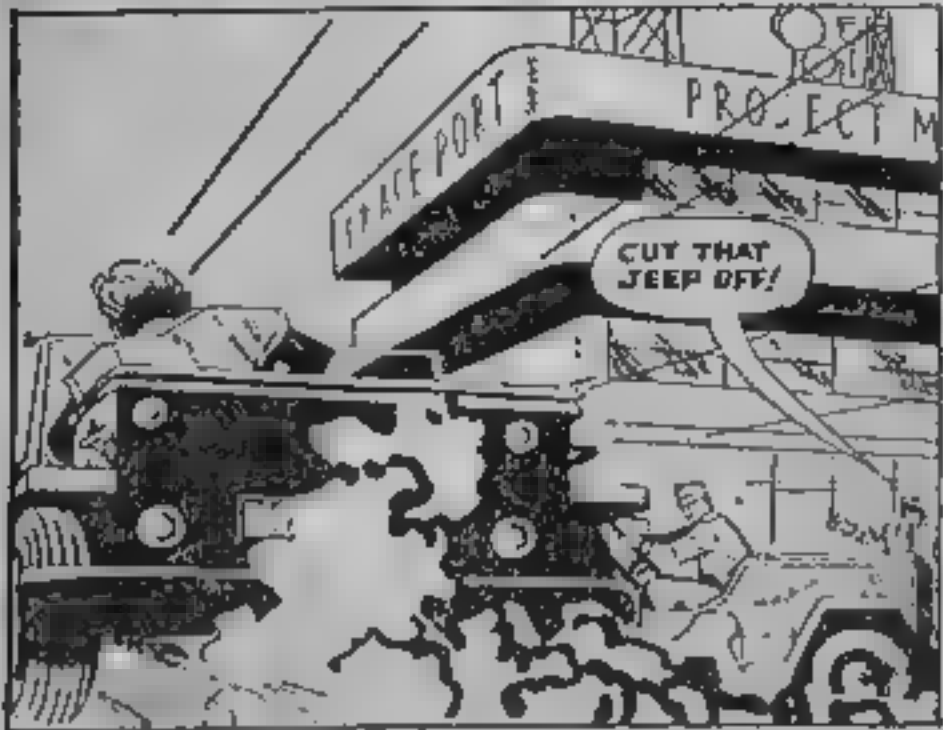
AT LAST I WANT TO GO HOME TO MY HOUSE MY BED. EARTH HOUSE. EARTH BED. SLEEP.

NO! YOU'RE SICK. IT'S A VIRUS. CONTAGIOUS! YOU MUST STAY.



PHIL WAS WEAKENED BY THE VIRUS HIMSELF. HIS HANDS SLIPPED AWAY. HE COULDN'T HOLD ON TO THE OTHER.

STOP HIM! IF HE GETS OUT AMONG PEOPLE THE VIRUS WILL SPREAD LIKE WILDFIRE. WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO CURE THIS VIRUS, AS YET!





GET THIS MAN INTO ISOLATION AT ONCE! MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T GET AWAY!

HE'S INJURED FROM THE WHEEL!



I'LL MONITOR HIM AT ONCE! I'LL HAVE THE RESEARCHERS HERE TO FIND OUT HOW TO CURE HIM! I'LL ADMIT IT!

IT'S AN ALPHAVIRUS! I'VE BEEN HERE FOR EACH OF THE LAST 24 HOURS! I'VE BEEN OUT OF THE ENTIRE FACILITY! IT CAN DO THE SAME HERE! I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!

Phil lay on a cot in a small room off the isolation ward, waiting!



HOW LONG BEFORE I'LL HEAR? IT'S BEEN AN HOUR NOW!



SPACE THE NEW FRONTIER OF MAN! THERE'S MORE TO CONSIDER UP THERE THAN JUST SPACE!



THIS VIRUS IS PARTICULARLY VIRULENT! YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY HERE UNTIL WE'RE SURE IT'S SAFE TO RELEASE YOU! WE'VE GOT TO WORK FAST TO FIND A CURE, IN CASE ANY VIRUS ESCAPED AIRBORNE! WE'LL LICK IT!

HOW IS...



WE COULDN'T SAVE HIM PHIL! YOUR BROTHER JAY IS DEAD!

THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING! WE'LL CONQUER THIS VIRUS, JUST AS WE HAVE CONQUERED A NEW WORLD! I'LL GO BACK... JAY WON'T HAVE DIED IN VAIN!

AS THE DOCTOR STOLE QUIETLY OUT OF THE ROOM, PHIL TURNED AND LOOKED OUT THE WINDOW.



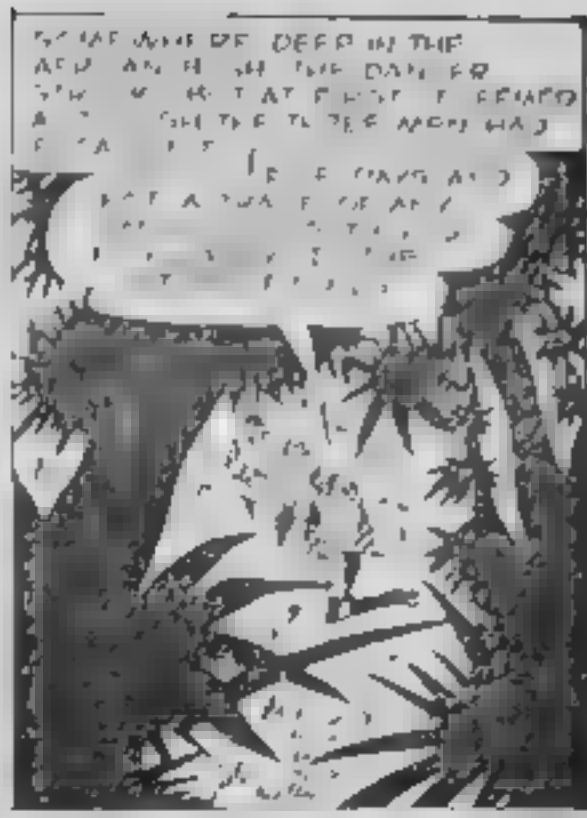
SOON MARS WILL BE AS FAMILIAR TO US AS EARTH... AND JAY'S TRIUMPH WILL LIVE IN THE MINDS OF MEN!

THE END

INVISIBLE DANGERS LURKED ON EVERY SIDE BUT THE GREATEST THREAT TO THE THREE MEN LAY IN THE
WORDS THE NATIVES WHISPERED AROUND THEIR CAMPFIRE

BEWARE...^{THE} GIANTS

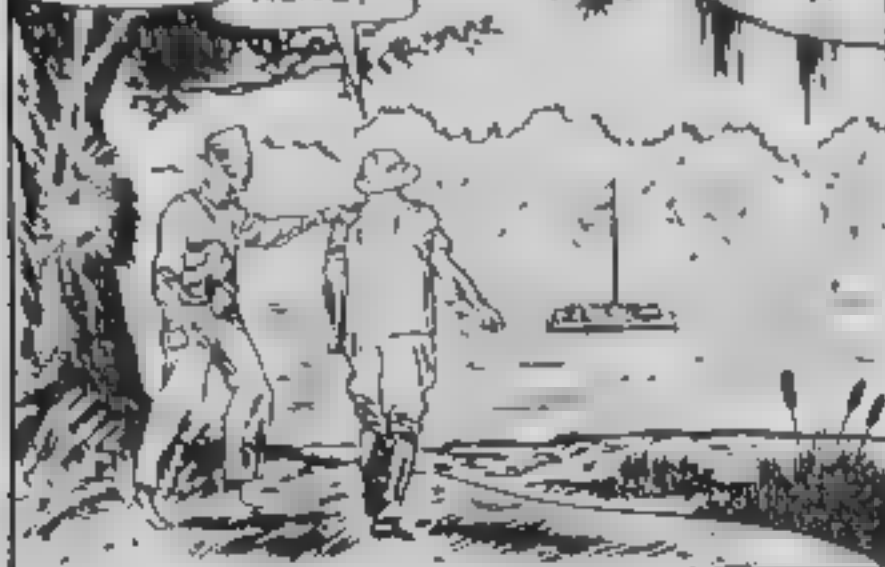






NONE OF THE WHITE MEN COULD HAVE SAID LATER, HOW THEY MANAGED TO KEEP ON BUT SOMEHOW EVENTUALLY, THEY LEFT THE JUNGLE ..

I SEE THEM, M'BOLA! I HOPE THEY'RE STILL ALIVE!



SOMEHOW, THE THREE MEN LIVED THROUGH THE RAVAGES OF STARVATION AND BURNING JUNGLE FEVER



UNTIL, ONE DAY, THEY COULD THINK AGAIN ..

JORDAN, HELP US WE'VE GOT TO GO BACK! WE'VE GOT TO FIND THE GIANTS!

HELP YOU? NO, I THINK NOT RICE, I DON'T THINK YOU'LL EVER FIND WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR!



WE **MUST!** THIS COULD BE THE GREATEST DISCOVERY OF THE CENTURY..

IT WOULD BE TOO RISKY! I KNOW THE JUNGLE! AND THERE'S JUST **ONE TRIBE** LIVING IN THE PART OF IT THAT YOU PENETRATED!



I PITY YOU FOR WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH! BUT I'M AFRAID IT WAS ALL FOR NOTHING!

FOR NOTHING? THAT'S NOT SO! IF WE WENT TO THE NATIVES WITH GIFTS, IF WE MADE FRIENDS WITH THEM, MAYBE THEY'D LEAD US TO THE GIANTS!



ALL THOSE TORMENTS... FOR NOTHING? NO! RICE AND THE OTHERS WOULD NOT BELIEVE THAT! BUT THERE WAS NO CHOICE, IN THE END ..

YOU **STILL** DON'T UNDERSTAND! YOU SEE, THAT TRIBE I SPOKE OF... THEY'VE **NEVER BEFORE SEEN** A STRANGER AND THEY'RE **PYGMIES!**



IN THE END, AS THE GRIM IRONY OF IT ALL SANK INTO THEIR MINDS, THEY **HAD** TO BELIEVE ..

DON'T YOU SEE **WHY** THEY PURSUED YOU? YOU ARE THE **"GIANTS"**!



THE END

THEY TOLD BLACKIE DORGAN THAT THE PRISON WAS ESCAPE-PROOF, BUT BLACKIE NOT ONLY FOUND A WAY OUT OF THE PENITENTIARY... HE FOUND HIS WAY OUT OF THE 20TH CENTURY, INTO THE COMPANY OF A MAN FROM WHOM HE COULD NEVER ESCAPE!

TIME WITHOUT END

ROBERT
P. SALE

FIFTEEN YEARS BEHIND BARS... AND WHAT FOR, MCKAY? I WAS FRAMED! THEY'LL NEVER KEEP AN INNOCENT MAN LOCKED UP LONG! I'LL GO OVER THE WALL!

NOT FROM THIS PRISON, BLACKIE! IT'S ESCAPE-PROOF! NO MAN HAS EVEN ESCAPED FROM HIS CELL!

A
**MYSTERY
TALE**
TO HOLD YOU
BREATHLESS!



K896

'FRAMED!' THE CRY OF ALMOST EVERY FELON! BLACKIE DORGAN WAS GUILTY OF ROBBERY, BUT NOT WILLING TO PAY FOR HIS CRIME...

BLACKIE KNEW THE ODDS WERE AGAINST HIM, BUT HE WAS FRIGHTENED AT THE PROSPECT OF LONG YEARS OF IMPRISONMENT! HE DASHED BLINDLY, LIKE A WILD BEAST...

THEN I'M NOT WAITIN' FOR THEM TO PUT ME IN A CELL!

YOU'RE CRAZY, BLACKIE! YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT PAST THE GATES!



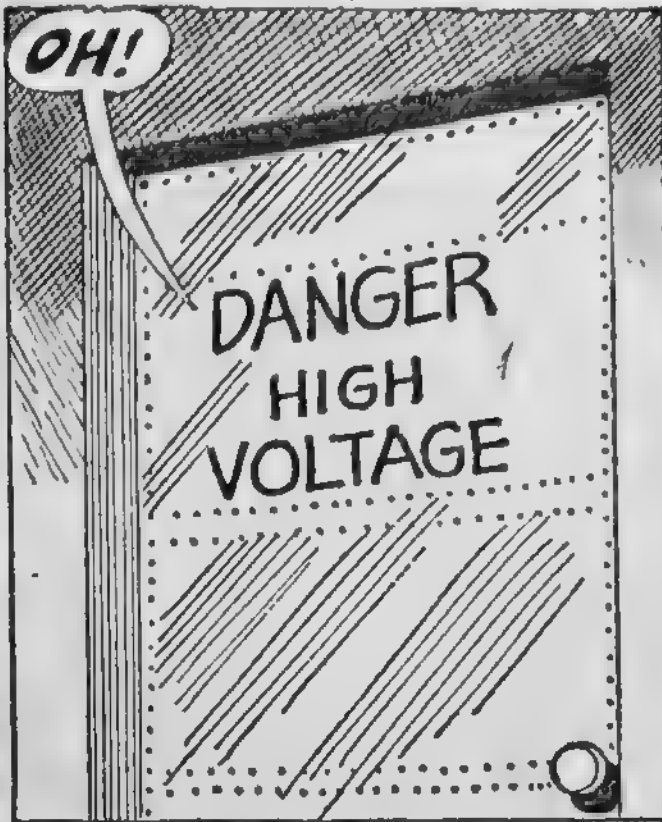
STOP THAT MAN!



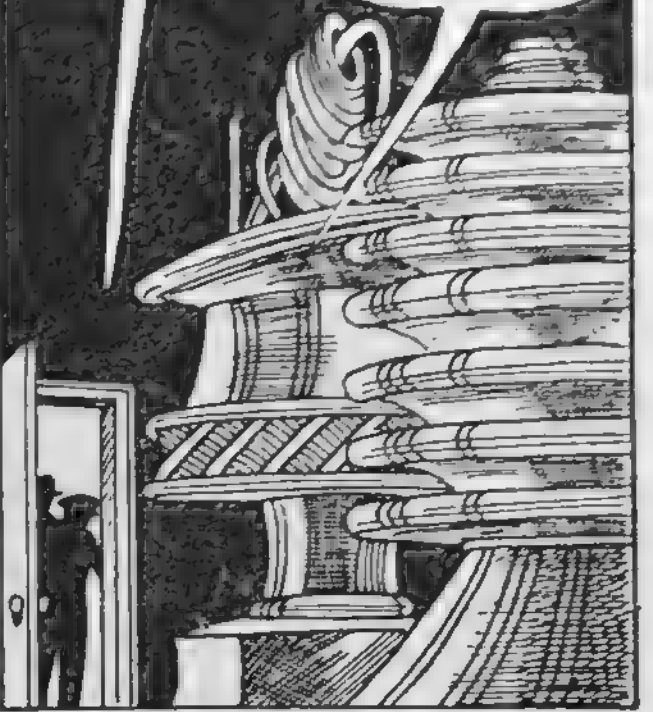
HE FLEW DOWN PAST THE STUNNED GUARDS, WHO QUICKLY GATHERED THEIR WITS AND TOOK UP THE PURSUIT! BLACKIE COULD THINK ONLY OF ONE THING...



THE FUGITIVE HASTILY CLOSED THE DOOR, FAILING IN HIS FRENZY, TO READ THE WARNING ON IT...



NOBODY HERE! I WAS SURE I HEARD HIM CRY OUT FROM THIS ROOM!



THE FUGITIVE HAD VANISHED, NOT ONLY FROM PRISON, BUT FROM HIS OWN TIME! 40,000 VOLTS OF ELECTRICITY HAD JOLTED HIM INTO THE 17TH CENTURY, INTO OLD ENGLAND! BUT BLACKIE WAS AWARE ONLY OF ONE THING...



HUNGRY, BROKE, BLACKIE STOPPED AT A GREAT MANSION TO BEG FOR FOOD...



OF COURSE, YOU MUST BE VERY HUNGRY! CHADWICK, YOU WILL PROVIDE BLACKIE WITH A COMPLETE DINNER! I'LL SEE YOU LATER IN THE LIBRARY, BLACKIE!

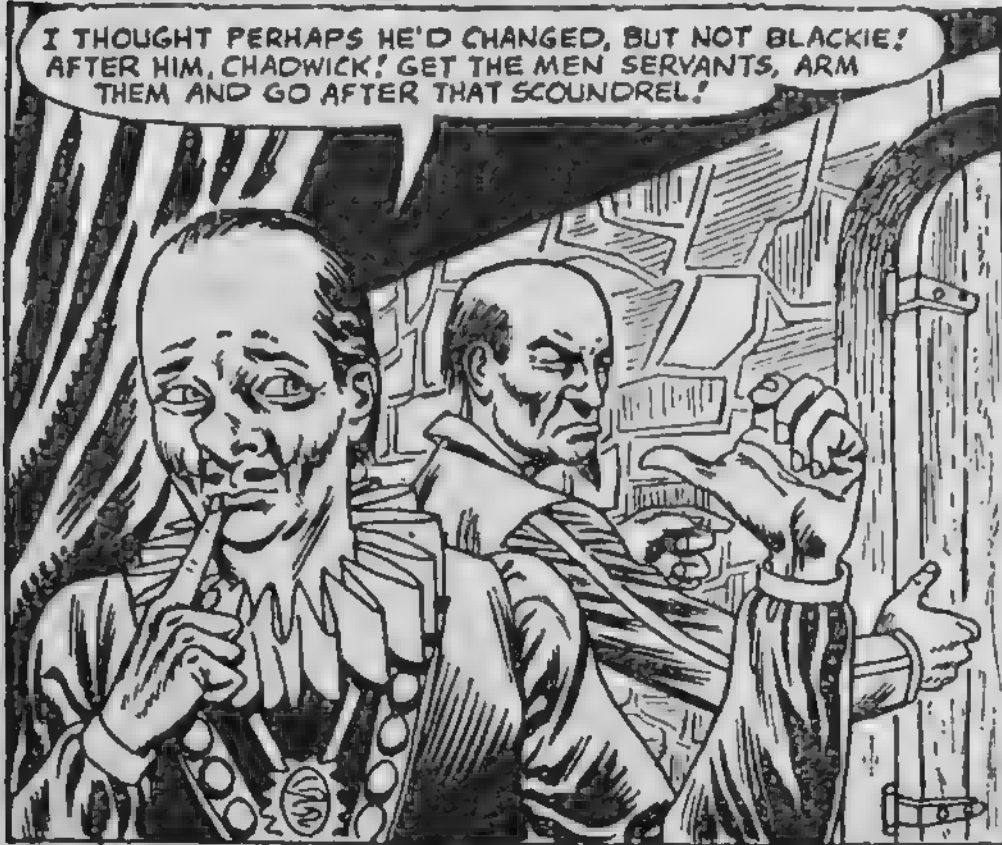
SURE... YOU SURE WILL!



BUT EVEN IN THE 17TH CENTURY, BLACKIE DORGAN WAS STILL A THIEF AT HEART...



HE HAD BARELY ESCAPED FROM THE MANSION WITH THE COSTLY SILVER, WHEN THE THEFT WAS DISCOVERED BY HIS HOST...



I THOUGHT PERHAPS HE'D CHANGED, BUT NOT BLACKIE! AFTER HIM, CHADWICK! GET THE MEN SERVANTS, ARM THEM AND GO AFTER THAT SCOUNDREL!

THE ANGRY SERVANTS QUICKLY GAINED ON THE THIEF WITH HIS HEAVY BURDEN...



I'M TRAPPED!

SUDDENLY, THE KINETIC-ELECTRON FORCE THAT HAD HURLED BLACKIE DORGAN INTO THE PAST, "BOUNCED" HIM OUT OF THE 17TH CENTURY...

THAT FORCE ACTING MUCH AS AN INVISIBLE ELASTIC BAND, DREW THE CRIMINAL BACK INTO THE 18TH CENTURY, INTO AN ANCIENT GERMAN TOWN...

BLACKIE COULD SEE A WARM FIRE THROUGH THE WINDOW OF A LARGE HOUSE HE COULDN'T RESIST ITS CHEERY BECKONING!



BY JOVE, THE MAN JUST PLAIN VANISHED! BUT NOT WITH THE SILVER! HE DROPPED IT!



I'M GETTING SOAKED TO THE SKIN! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF THIS DOWN-POUR, OUT OF THIS MISERABLE COLD!



I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D MIND...? IT...IT'S YOU AGAIN!

WELCOME HOME, BLACKIE!

THE MYSTERY OF THE IDENTICAL HOST IN ANOTHER LAND DIDN'T TROUBLE HIM LONG! HE WAS ONLY TOO GLAD TO FEEL THE WARMTH OF THE HEARTH...

THE MOMENT HIS HOST TURNED HIS BACK AND CARELESSLY LEFT HIS STRONGBOX OF GOLD ON THE TABLE, BLACKIE DORGAN MOVED SWIFTLY...



I'LL BE FINISHED WITH THE ACCOUNTS IN A MINUTE, BLACKIE! THEN I SHALL CALL THE FAMILY! THEY'LL BE VERY HAPPY TO SEE YOU!

YEAH, PAL, YOU GO CALL THEM... BUT I'M NOT GOIN' TO WAIT AROUND FOR THEM TO DISCOVER I'M NOT THE BLACKIE YOU WERE EXPECTN'!



I DON'T KNOW WHERE I AM, OR HOW LONG I'LL BE HERE, BUT THIS TIME I'M NOT GOIN' TO LEAVE WITHOUT A PILE OF MONEY!

SO, BLACKIE, YOU ALWAYS SAID YOU WERE INNOCENT, AND I WANTED TO BELIEVE YOU! BUT THIS TIME I SEE FOR MYSELF YOU'RE A COMMON THIEF! OFFICER! STOP THAT THIEF!

DON'T WORRY, MEIN HERR! HE WON'T GET AWAY FROM ME!

BUT BLACKIE DORGAN DID GET AWAY! THE STRANGE, INVISIBLE FORCE PULLED HIM BACK AGAIN, OUT OF THE 18TH CENTURY!

DID YOU SEE THAT? HE JUST DISAPPEARED BEFORE OUR EYES!

IT CARRIED HIM INTO THE 19TH CENTURY, TO PARIS, FRANCE!

OH, NO... THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE! THE SAME GUY AGAIN!

WELCOME HOME, BLACKIE!

THE BEWILDERING COINCIDENCE LEFT BLACKIE SHAKEN, BUT DETERMINED TO ESCAPE MORE QUICKLY THIS TIME, AND NOT EMPTY-HANDED...

THE GUARDS ARRIVED TO GREET BLACKIE, BEFORE HE COULD GET THE FAMOUS PAINTING FROM ITS FRAME...

IT IS GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK, MON AMI! I SHALL TELL THE OTHER GUARDS YOU HAVE RETURNED! NO DOUBT YOU'LL WANT TO WORK HERE AGAIN!

I'LL WORK, ALL RIGHT... I'LL WORK FAST! I KNOW THIS PICTURE... WORTH A FORTUNE!

I SUSPECTED YOU WERE UP TO NO GOOD, BLACKIE! OH...WHAT IS HAPPENING?

HE'S FADING AWAY!

THE KINETIC-ELECTRON FORCE DID ITS WORK AGAIN, AND THERE WAS SUDDENLY GREAT EXCITEMENT AT THE STATE PENITENTIARY...

WARDEN HARVEY COOMBS GRINNED AS HE GREETED THE ASTONISHED CONVICT!

WARDEN COOMBS! HE'S BACK! WE FOUND BLACKIE DORGAN WANDERING AROUND THE PRISON!

AH, SPLENDID! I HAD A FEELING HE COULDN'T STAY HIDDEN VERY LONG! BRING HIM IN, BRADLEY!

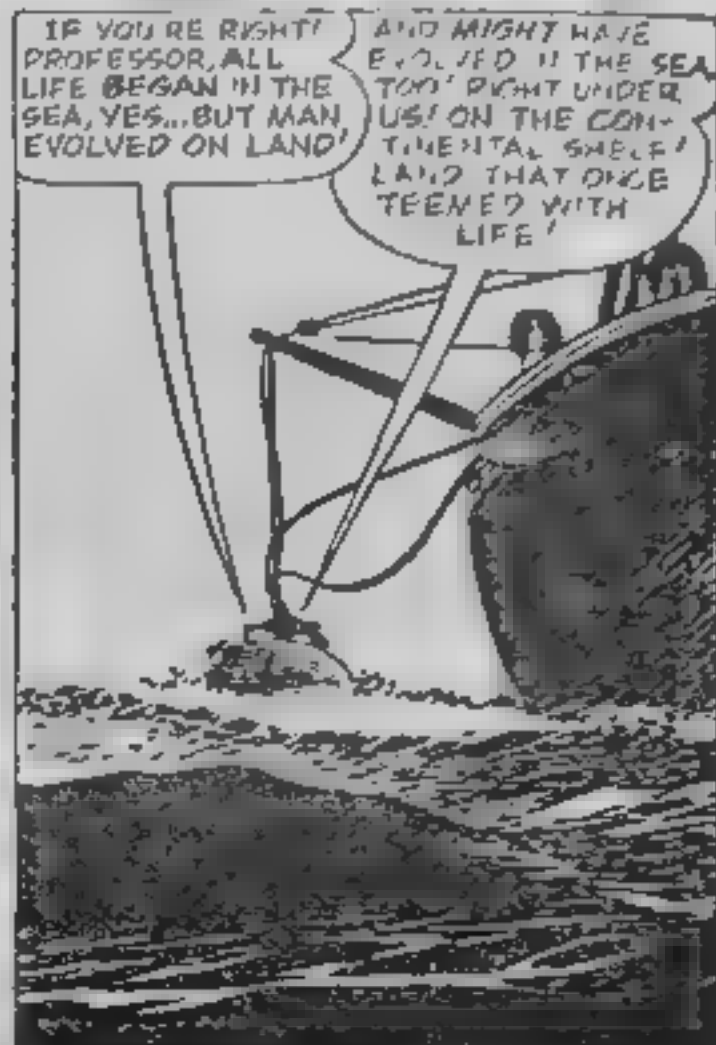
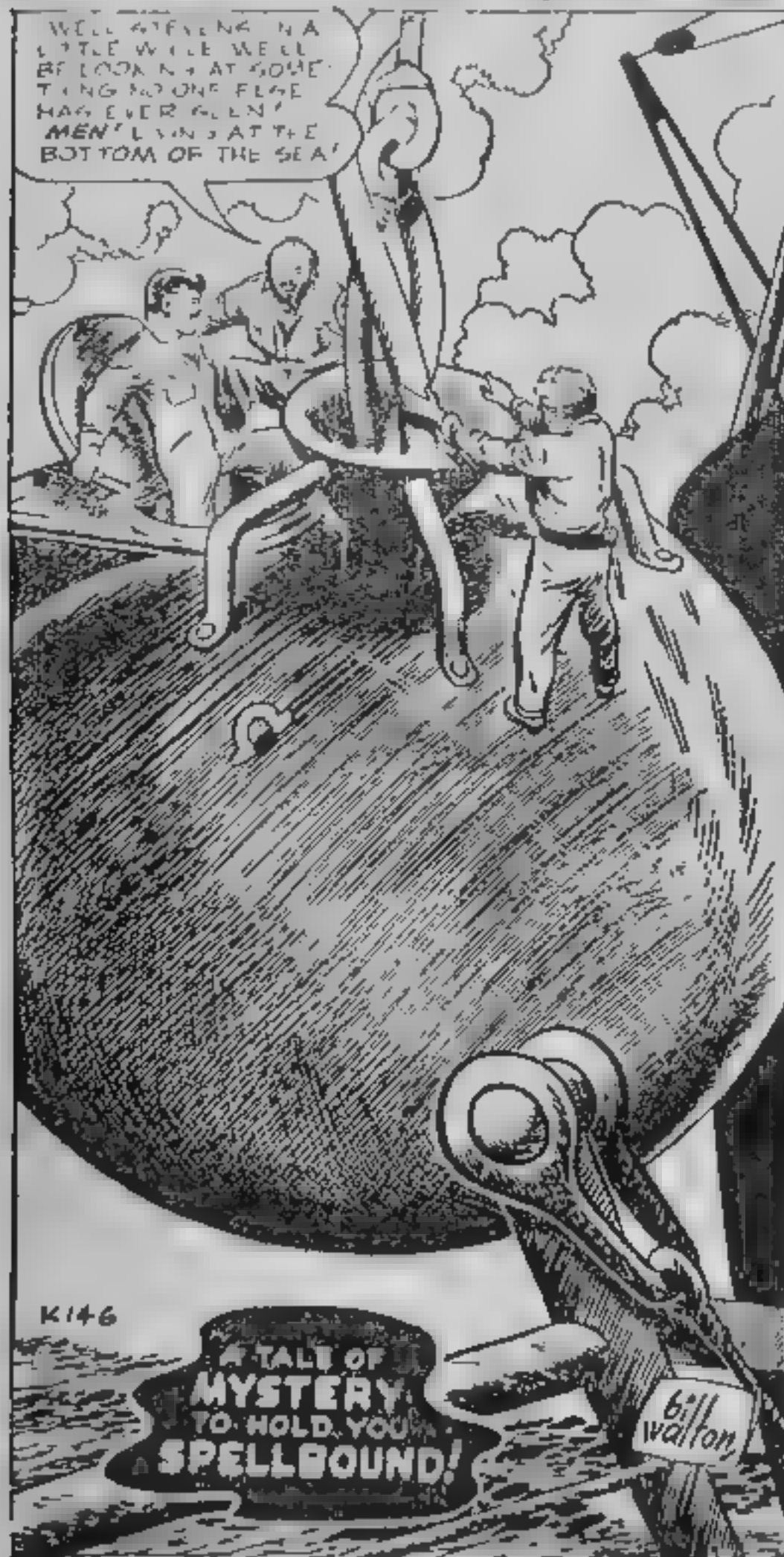
WHAT!?

WELCOME HOME, BLACKIE! I HOPE YOU'LL STAY WITH US FOR A WHILE, THIS TIME!

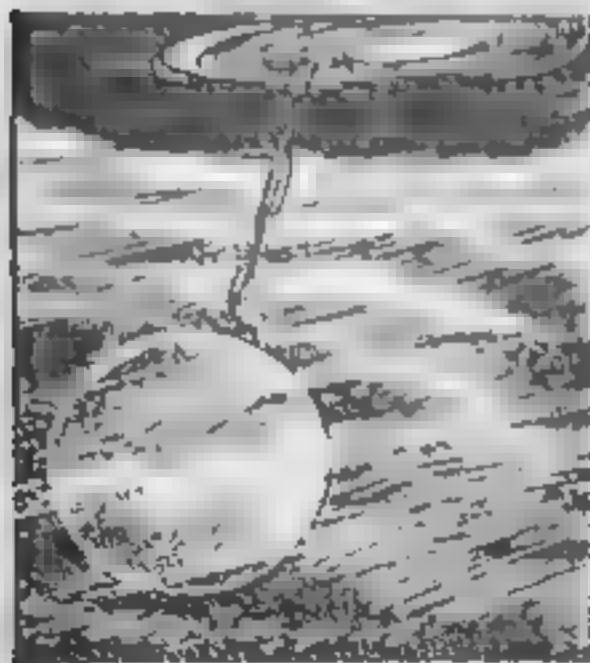
THE END

THE PROFESSOR HAD A THEORY, BUT EVEN HE DIDN'T THINK HIS THEORY WOULD EVER BE PROVEN, WHEN STEVENS WHISPERED...

We're Going to Drown



SOMENOW, AT THE END, THE PROFESSOR WAS UNCERTAIN! IT WAS SO QUIET IN THE FUTURE! BUT THERE WAS NO TURNING BACK... NOT NOW!



IT WAS ALMOST AS IF THE PROFESSOR KNEW WHAT WAS TO HAPPEN! TEN FATHOMS! FORTY! SIXTY! AND THEN...



HOW DEEP ARE WE?

EIGHTY FATHOMS! FOLD-HUNDRED AND SIXTY FEET!

PROFESSOR! WE'RE IN THE DEEP! THE FAST! AND MY HEADSET IS DEAD!

THE FAST ENEMY HAVE STARTED! IT'S THE TERRIFIC PULL!



WE'RE ON THE BOTTOM!

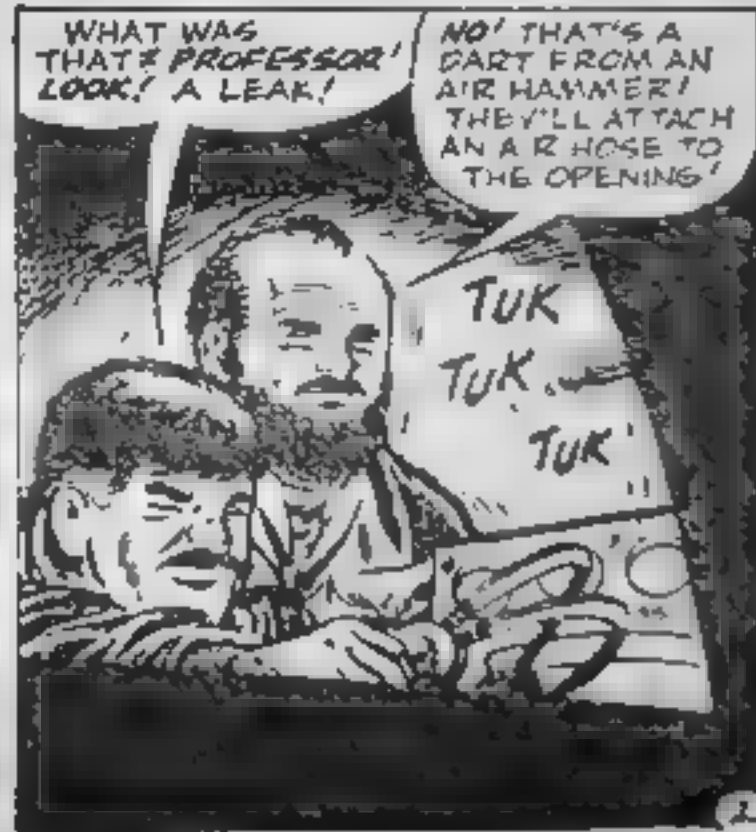
YES! AND WE'LL STAY HERE! LOOK AT THE GAUGE! WILL THEY GET TO US BEFORE OUR AIR GIVES OUT? WE DON'T HAVE A FEW HOURS!

AND THOSE FEW HOURS SEEMED TO RACE BY...



WHEN WILL THEY COME FOR US?

LISTEN! I HEARD SOMETHING! THERE'S A DIVER OUT THERE!



WHAT WAS THAT? PROFESSOR! LOOK! A LEAK!

NO! THAT'S A DART FROM AN AIR HAMMER! THEY'LL ATTACH AN AIR HOSE TO THE OPENING!

TUK
TUK...
TUK!



YOU'RE RIGHT
BUT THEY'RE
TALKING THE
AROUND
IT HERE
I RE

WENT WITH
HAR
AT MY
AS, FLOAT TO
THE

PRECCURE! IT SEEMED TO THE
PROFESSOR THAT IT WAS A
NORMALLY LATELY AND IT
I WAS NOT THE PRESIDENT
OF THE



THEY
HAD
THEY
THEY



IT WAS A LONG TIME BEFORE THE PROFESSOR
CAME BACK TO CONSCIOUSNESS AND AROUND HIM
WAS BLUE SKY! HE WAS SAFE! YET, HE WEPT...



A WHOLE LOT FOR ME...
EVERY PENNY I COULD
REG OR BORROW...
WASTED! I'VE FAILED!

YOU DIDN'T FAIL,
PROFESSOR! TO BE
TRUTHFUL, I THOUGHT
YOU WOULD... BUT
YOU DIDN'T FAIL!



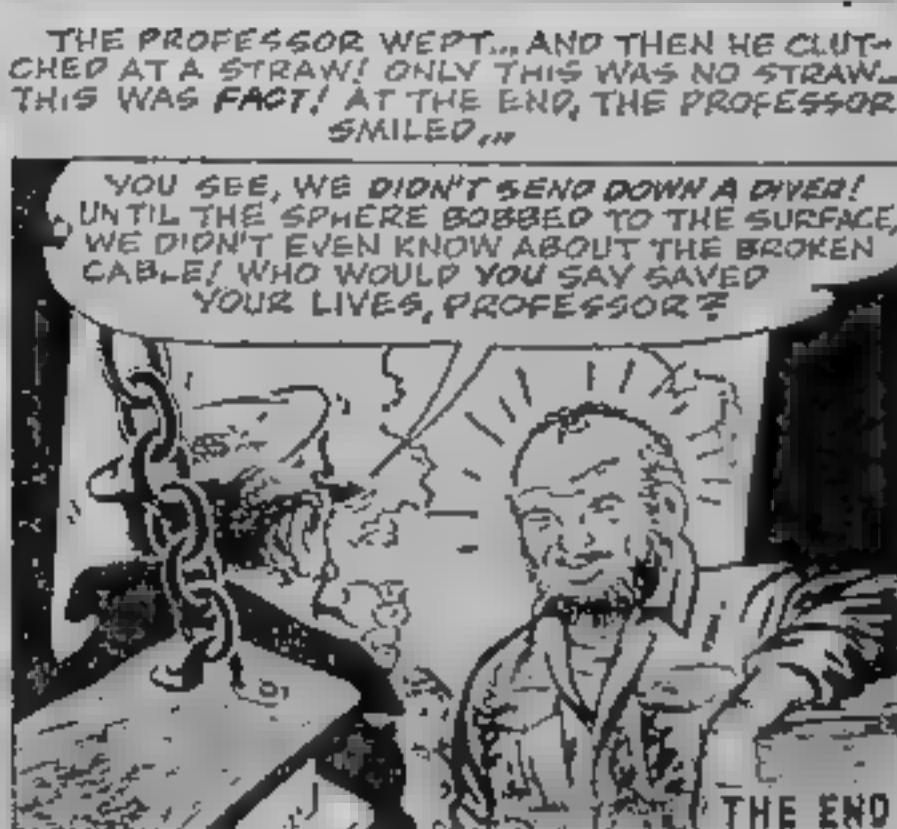
BUT WE CAN NOTHING!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND!
WE'D HAVE DIED IF
YOUR DIVER HADN'T
REACHED US! WHAT
ARE YOU SAYING?

PROVED THE POINT,
PROFESSOR! EVEN
IF YOU DIDN'T SEE
ANYTHING



MAN DID DEVELOP
UNDER THE SEA! HE
MUST HAVE! THERE'S
NO OTHER EXPLANATION!

YOU KNOW SOME-
THING THAT I DON'T!
WHAT IS IT? TELL
ME!



THE PROFESSOR WEPT... AND THEN HE CLUT-
CHED AT A STRAW! ONLY THIS WAS NO STRAW...
THIS WAS FACT! AT THE END, THE PROFESSOR
SMILED...

YOU SEE, WE DIDN'T SEND DOWN A DIVER!
UNTIL THE SPHERE BOBBED TO THE SURFACE,
WE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW ABOUT THE BROKEN
CABLE! WHO WOULD YOU SAY SAVED
YOUR LIVES, PROFESSOR?

THE END

NEW GLASSES

HERBERT put on his coat and a visored cap and set off to see if he could find an optician's office open. Sure enough he located a small office that said Blooper's Optical Service and entered the place. As soon as he did so, an absent-minded gentleman rushed from the inner offices to find Herbert. He was wearing a laboratory smock. A pair of glasses hung over the bridge of his nose. And as he hustled excitedly into the room, the one curly lock on his head reminded Herbert of a newborn baby's coiffure. But the gentleman was quite advanced in years.

"I must have a pair of specially-made sun glasses by this evening," Herbert announced. "I assume you, Mr. Blooper will take care of me. You see, it was quite by chance that I was hired today to caddy for the Idlewind Golf Club. If I do not have my glasses, I shall be a complete loss on the golf links. That is why I am asking you to help me."

Mr. Blooper looked highly agitated.

"Dear me, young man, I do wish you had come in earlier. This request is quite an unusual rush, you understand, and I have some urgent business of my own to work on."

Herbert focused his imploring, appealing eyes on Mr. Blooper. His engaging smile switched on like a beacon and practically blinded poor Mr. Blooper. Herbert could charm the scales off an alligator. And since Mr. Blooper's hide wasn't quite so tough, he readily fell

under Herbert's personality pull. Besides, he quickly decided that it would take more time to get rid of this persistent young man than giving into him required.

"It's most unusual. Most unusual," he muttered, leading Herbert into the examining room. "But since I do all the lens preparation and assembly for my patients on the premises, I can oblige you if it's a matter of absolute necessity."

Herbert looked around him with great interest.

"I see you have other rooms in the back. Are those also for examining customers?"

Mr. Blooper looked startled.

"Let's not waste time going into that, young man," he said quickly. Herbert wondered if it was his imagination or if Mr. Blooper weren't acting a bit mysterious about the rooms beyond.

Mr. Blooper turned out the lights and focused a machine with a piercing light in front of Herbert. He asked him to look one way, then the other. He adjusted a complicated mechanical gadget with various eye lenses in front of Herbert. He then proceeded to adjust the lenses all ways possible until Herbert found which he could see through more comfortably. Almost at the end of the examination there was a loud, clanging noise from the back rooms.

"Dear me, wait here a minute," Mr. Blooper called as he rushed off.

Herbert ordinarily would have thought it strange to see

the reflection of red and green lights like mixed-up traffic signals appear before his eyes. But he told himself it was a reaction from the eye tests Blooper had given him. And in a few minutes, Blooper rushed back into the room.

"All right, young man," he said rapidly. "Come back this afternoon and I'll have those prescription sunglasses ready for you. Excuse me now, but I'm terribly busy. Use the back door on your way out. I've locked the front door so that I'm not worried with any more rush customers today. I really have more to do than I can handle now. When you come back this afternoon, ring three times at the rear door, and I'll let you in."

Herbert followed Blooper's directions down a long corridor to the rear door of the shop. He stepped into a narrow driveway which emptied onto the side street.

"Poor old Blooper is really doing me a great favor," he thought with satisfaction. "I just hope his price isn't too high after this special consideration and attention."

At the appointed hour Herbert returned to the rear door of the Blooper Optical Company. He rang the bell three times as was arranged. Then he waited. After a while he began to get anxious and he rang three times again. This time he tried the door and opened it. He walked down the long corridor which led to the examining room.

Precisely at this moment the

harried, bustling Mr. Blooper dashed toward him with a package in his hand. Herbert paid him for his services, and before he could even say thank you, Blooper had dashed off. The only thing he found time to say, however, was, "Your eyes will take time to adjust to these new glasses, so if they don't seem completely comfortable immediately, don't be surprised. Gradually, you'll get used to the new prescription."

Herbert put on his new glasses, turned and walked down a corridor. Immediately he began to feel himself somersaulting and bouncing as if he were on a trampoline.

"Get used to!" he exclaimed as he felt himself whirl through the air like a pinwheel. "I've never seen such dizzy doings in my life! Oh, well, Blooper knows his business. I'll have to take his word for it."

He steadied his legs and began to find his way toward the rear door of the store. He opened the door and stepped out onto the street. Amazing, but the narrow driveway suddenly looked like a huge boulevard!

"Well, if nothing else, my new glasses are improving the appearance of things," he chuckled. "Why, even the little roofs of the houses on Main street look like the turrets of great castles!"

What really confused him though was to see the pedestrians walk by. They all towered so completely above him that he seemed like an ant in the midst of a giant populace. He kept ducking to escape what looked like an army. Patiently, he reassured himself that the glasses were indeed hard to get used to. And every-

thing might have gone along just like that except for the moment he attempted to cross the street. Suddenly a wagon came toward him and instead of an ordinary peddler driving the horses, he saw a gentleman, resplendent in a costume! Herbert had never seen the likes of it except in a museum case. This was too much!

Herbert decided then and there to retrace his steps to Blooper's shop and get his money back. Fortunately, he found the rear door of the shop he had come from. He knocked



upon the door loudly and entered the darkened corridor.

Mr. Blooper came running toward him wringing his hands excitedly.

"What are you doing here?" Mr. Blooper demanded. "I thought you had left by now. Can't you see how busy I am..."

"Take it easy, Mr. Blooper," said Herbert indignantly. "I consider that what you tried to do for me was a great favor, but I have a complaint to make. With these glasses everything is so distorted that I doubt the possibility of my getting used to them. I want you to check

and see if there wasn't some mistake in the prescription you gave me."

With this, Herbert took off the glasses. He put his hands on the frames, removed them, and handed them to Blooper. Blooper sighed.

"Young man, I don't have time to go into a long explanation, but it isn't the glasses that misled you. I have a special optical service connection with a friend of mine who is doing some experiments with time lapses. I've leased him part of my office, and normally I have the corridor leading to the Last Centuries blocked off. You mistakenly stepped into the "backwards" corridor and what you saw wasn't distortion, my boy, but ancient history. You must promise not to tell anyone of this experiment, however. It is in the most elementary stages. Here, take back your money. Accept the new glasses as a gift. And if you follow my instructions as you should have, you'll take the right rear door which will lead you to Main Street."

Herbert, indeed, found himself upon Main Street with new glasses and extra money in his hands. He whistled his way homewards, happy.

"Of course I knew it *couldn't* be the glasses that made me see those things," he told himself. "Only a fool would have thought that."

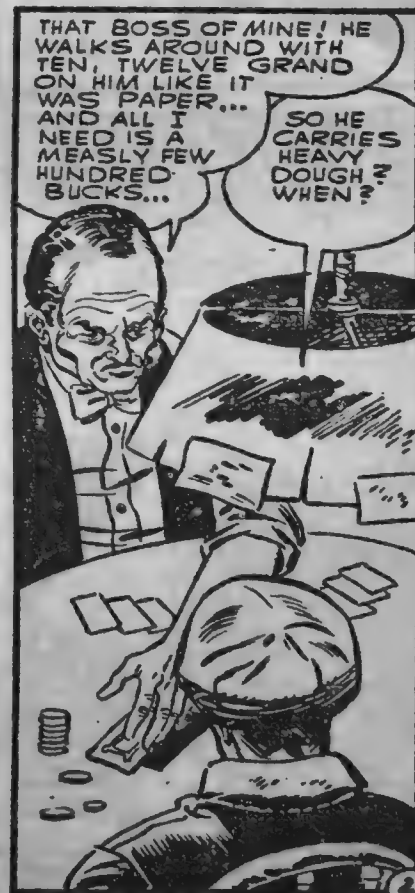
He straightened his hat in the mirror and he had to rub his eyes. For a moment it seemed that the cap distorted, grew to a point, and the letters upon it were "D-U-N-C-E."

THE END K-368

THEY CALLED HIM *RUTHLESS*

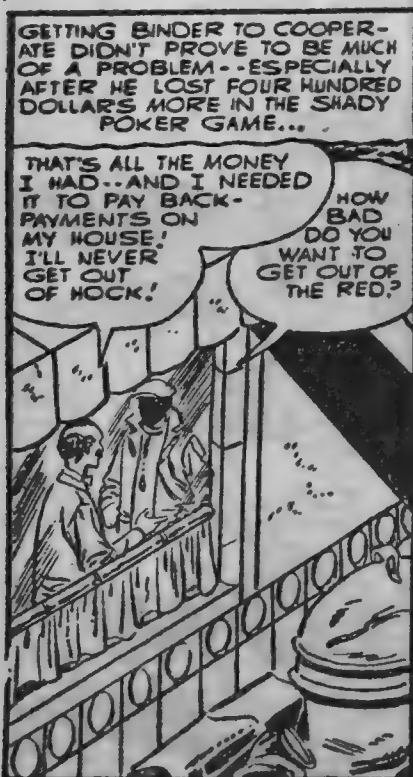
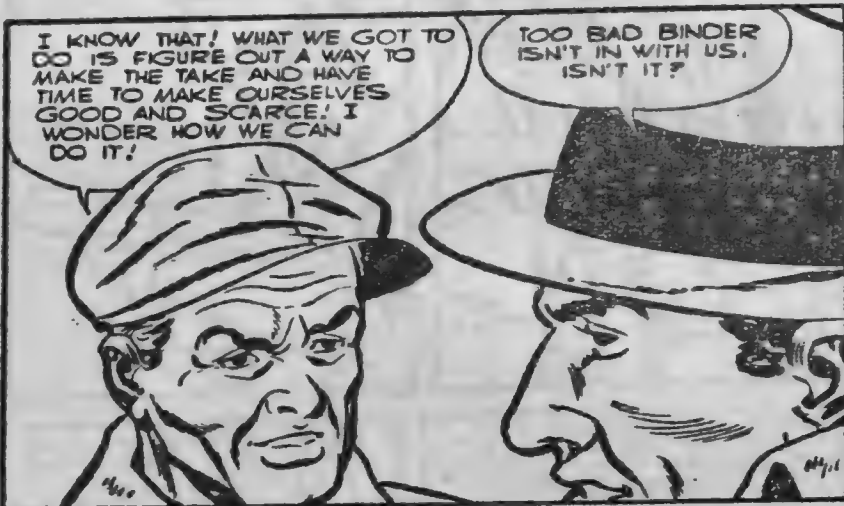
... BUT NOT EVERYONE THOUGHT BIG JOE CARRIGAN WAS A TOUGH COP! FOR EVERY PUNK IN PRISON WHO SAYS CARRIGAN WOULD ARREST HIS OWN BROTHER, THERE'S ONE OUTSIDE WHO CLAIMS THE FIRST GRADE DETECTIVE IS THE NICEST GUY IN THE WORLD! THE VAUGHAN FACTORY STICK-UP WAS A PERFECT ILLUSTRATION OF HOW CARRIGAN OPERATED ...







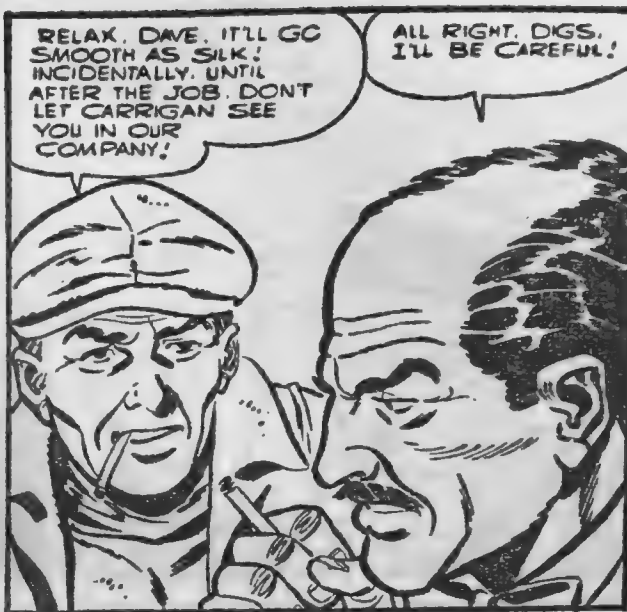
IDLE CURIOSITY WASN'T ONE OF DIGGS VICCIO'S HABITS! HE AND HOWIE LANSON WERE GETTING RESTLESS WORKING FOR A LIVING...





WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW IS WHEN VAUGHAN WILL HAVE A REAL BUNDLE ON HIM! AND YOU'VE GOT TO GET US IN HIS OFFICE TO MAKE THE SCORE! CAN YOU DO IT?

THE OFFICE WILL BE EMPTY AT LUNCH TIME! B-BUT I DON'T WANT TO GET IN TROUBLE OR HAVE MR. VAUGHAN GET HURT!



RELAX, DAVE, IT'LL GO SMOOTH AS SILK! INCIDENTALLY, UNTIL AFTER THE JOB, DON'T LET CARRIGAN SEE YOU IN OUR COMPANY!

ALL RIGHT, DIGS, I'LL BE CAREFUL!

FRIDAY, THE EIGHTEENTH OF MAY, WAS PICKED FOR THE VAUGHAN JOB! A PHONE CALL ALERTED VICCIO AND LANSON IN THE MORNING...



MR. SMITH? THAT SHIPMENT IS DUE AT A QUARTER TO ONE THIS AFTERNOON! WILL YOU PICK IT UP?

YEAH, WE'LL GET IT, MR. BINDER! AND RELAX OR SOMEBODY WILL SUSPECT SOMETHING'S WRONG! I CAN HEAR YOU SHIVERING FROM HERE!



THIS OUGHTA BE A PIP! IN CASE VAUGHAN PUTS UP A FIGHT, WE GOT THE RODS!

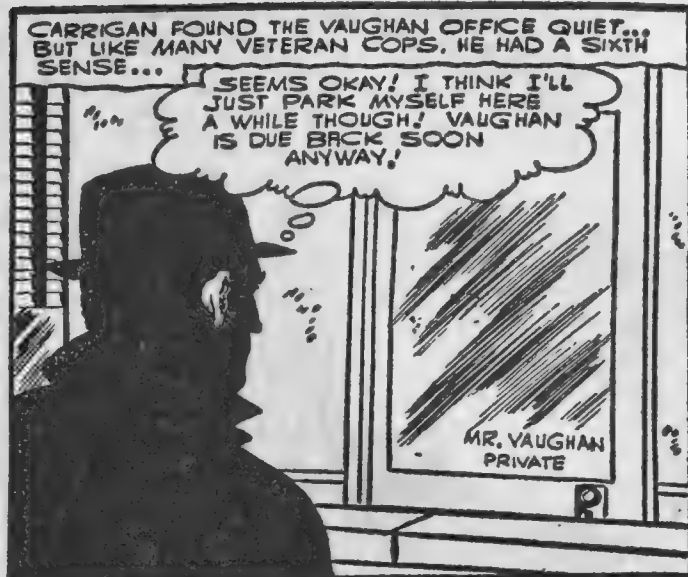
YEAH, I'M GLAD CARRIGAN'S NOT AROUND! IT'D BE JUST OUR LUCK TO HAVE 'EM FRISK US WHEN WE'RE HEELED!

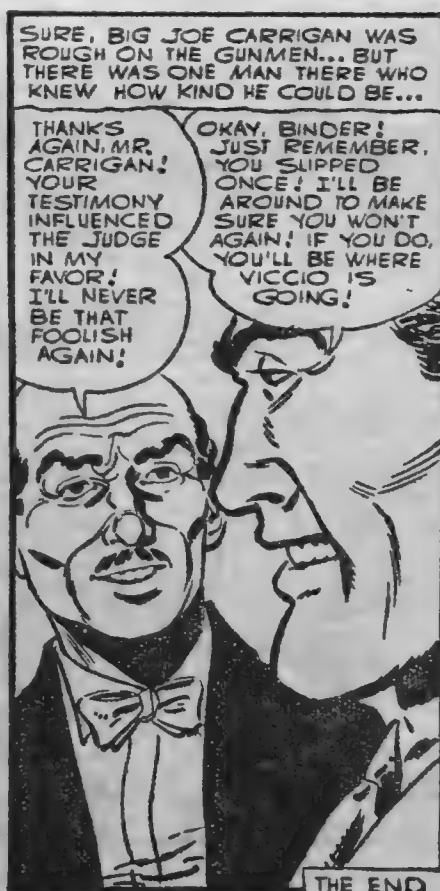


BUT THE BIG DETECTIVE DIDN'T MEET THEM! HE CAME INTO SIGHT AT A QUARTER TO ONE...

HOW'S THE WIFE, CHARLIE? IT'S PRETTY QUIET TODAY! I DON'T EVEN SEE THOSE TWO BEAUTIES VICCIO AND LANSON AROUND!

THEY WERE, THOUGH! THEY WALKED DOWN TOWARD THE VAUGHAN PLANT!





THE END

Dr. STRANGE

MASTER OF
THE MYSTIC
ARTS!

THE WORLD BEYOND

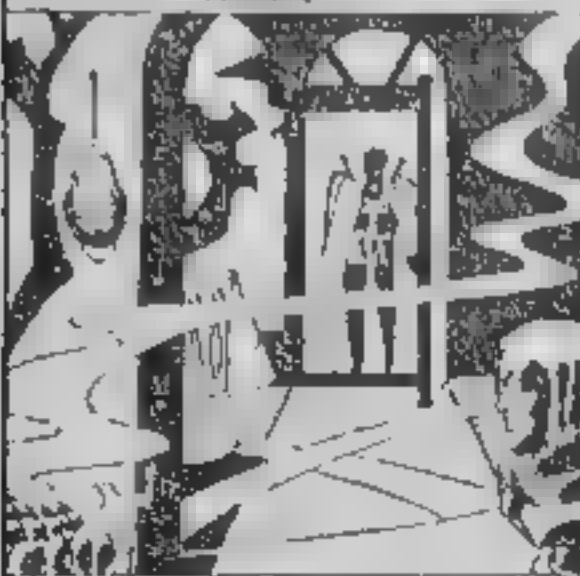
featuring:
"NIGHTMARE!"



ONCE AGAIN, THE
MIGHTY MARVEL
GROUP PROUDLY PRESENTS
DR. STRANGE,
THE WORLD'S CLAIMED
SMASH SENSATION WHO
HAS MADE BLACK MAGIC
THE MOST FASCINATING NEW
SUBJECT IN COMICS!

WRITTEN, WITH A TOUCH OF URGENCY
BY..... **STAN LEE**
DRAWN, WITH A DASH OF NE ROMANCY
BY..... **STEVE DITKO**
LETTERED, WITH A NUMBER 6 FINE POINT
BY..... **ART SIMEK**

SLOWLY, A HEAVY CREAMY DAWN
SWIN... OPEN, RAINING A TALL
DRAUGHT... IN THE DIMLY
LIT... DR. STRANGE RETURN TO
GREENLY... THIS... MY... TAKE



I AM EXCEEDINGLY WEARY!
FOR DAYS I HAVE BEEN
FIGHTING BATTLE AGAINST
THE... NATURAL... WE CAN MAKE...



BUT THE
HUMAN BODY
HAS ITS LIMITS
OF THE... I CAN... NO...
... IT...
... IT...
... IT...



AND SO, IN THE SHALLOVY SILENCE OF HIS CANDLE-
LIT STUDY, THE MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS
FALLS INTO A DEEP SLUMBER-- THE MOST
DANGEROUS SLUMBER OF HIS LIFE!



FOR, WHEN HE FINALLY
AWAKENS, HIS STARTLED
EYES BEHOLD--

A MYSTERIOUS FIGURE,
CLOAKED IN DARKNESS...
COVERED WITH AN AURA
OF EVIL!



WHOEVER YOU ARE-- WHAT-
EVER YOUR SINISTER
MISSION-- BY THE HOSTS
OF HOGGOTH I COMMAND
YOU TO PUT YOURSELF
UNDER MY CONTROL!

IMPOSSIBLE! MY
MAGICAL INCANTA-
TION HAS NO
EFFECT! IT IS AS
THOUGH I HAVE
LOST MY POWER!!



THEN LET THE AWESOME
LIGHT OF MY ENCHANTED
AMULET BATHE YOU IN ITS
IRRESISTIBLE GLOW, UNTIL
-- WHAT?? MY AMULET
ALSO IS POWERLESS
AGAINST YOU!!





AND THEN HE TOLD ALL OF THEM IN THE MAD WHIRLPOOL OF A MENTAL ENERGY WAVE!!

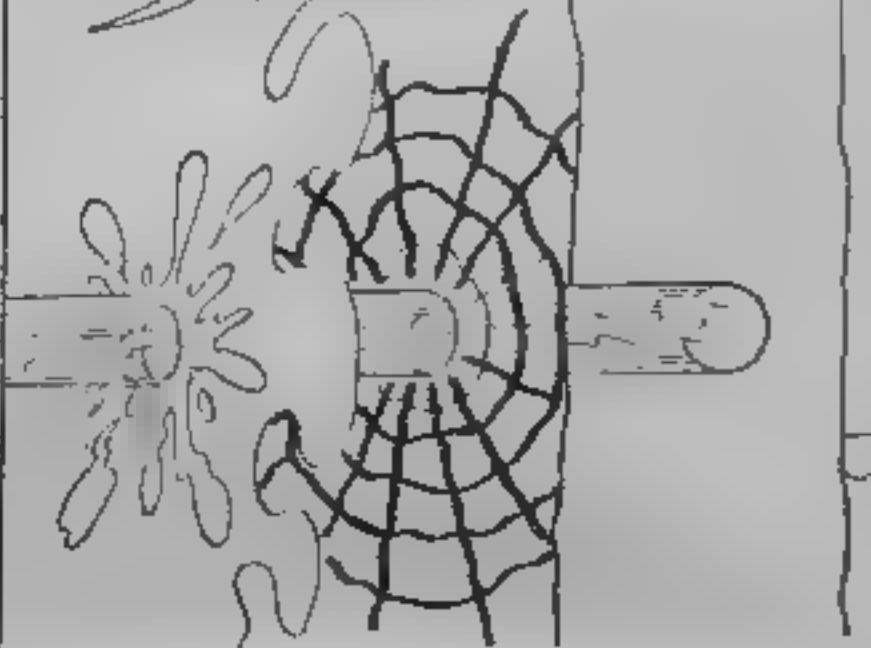
UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE! THE 2000 PANGS CAPTURED HIM! HE WAS A LUCKY ONE WHO WAS NOT AT THE FRONT OF THE CHARGE!!

IT WAS A TERRIBLE SITUATION! HE WAS BEING CAPTURED! HE WAS BEING CAPTURED! HE WAS BEING CAPTURED!



SEE HOW EASILY I WHIRL YOU AROUND, AS THE DIZZING CIRCLES GET WIDER AND WIDER -- FASTER AND FASTER -- UNTIL YOU REACH THE CRUCIAL POINT, AND THEN...

I RELEASE YOU -- TO SEND YOU ON YOUR DREAMFETTERED JOURNEY -- YOUR ONE-WAY JOURNEY -- YOUR FINAL JOURNEY!!



IT IS AS I SUSPECTED! I AM ENTERING THE NIGHTMARE WORLD! I'VE BEEN CAPTURED IN MY SLEEP!!

IT IS ALL MY FAULT! I CARELESSLY FORGOT TO UTTER THE PROTECTIVE CHANT WHICH KEEPS ME SAFE FROM HARM WHEN I SHUT MY EYES IN REPOSE! MY DREAD ENEMY, NIGHTMARE, MUST HAVE BEEN WATCHING -- WAITING FOR ME TO MAKE THAT FATAL SLIP!





THE JOURNEY IS ENDED! THERE HE IS -- SMILING TRIUMPHANTLY-- CERTAIN THAT HE HAS BEATEN ME AT LAST!

SO, DR. STRANGE! EVEN YOU ARE NOT INFALLIBLE! EVEN YOU HAVE YOUR CARELESS MOMENTS-- MOMENTS WHICH ALLOW ME TO STRIKE!



LET THE ENERGY GLOBE WHICH HOLDS YOU VANISH! I NEED IT NO LONGER! YOU CAN NEVER ESCAPE ME NOW!

I WARN YOU, NIGHTMARE! NO MATTER HOW POWERLESS I MAY SEEM--I AM STILL MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS!!



FOOL! YOUR WORDS ARE EMPTY AS THE WIND! HERE IN MY WORLD I AM SUPREME! MY WILL IS THE ONLY WILL! SEE HOW EASILY I CAN WILL YOU TO SHRINK IN SIZE, UNTIL I CAN HOLD YOU IN THE PALM OF ONE HAND!!



REMEMBER--SO LONG AS YOU ARE ASLEEP, I AM YOUR MASTER HERE IN THE NIGHTMARE WORLD!!

BUT I SHALL NOT SLEEP FOREVER--AND, WHEN I AWAKE, YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS INDIGNITY!



NEVER! YOU SHALL NEVER AWAKE! I CAUGHT YOU OFF-GUARD! YOU HAVE NO POWER TO USE AGAINST ME! I CAN HOLD YOU HERE FOREVER--FOR THIS IS MY DOMAIN!

NOW RETURN TO NORMAL SIZE! I'M WEARY OF THIS LITTLE GAME! THERE ARE OTHERS I MAY WISH TO PLAY!

AND, LEST YOU ENTERTAIN ANY HOPES OF ESCAPING, SEE HOW EASILY I CAN CONTROL YOU! AT A SINGLE GESTURE FROM ME, YOU TURN INTO A FIGURE OF STONE!!



THEN, WHEN I GET BORED, I CAN TURN YOU INTO A FIGURE OF STONE!! I AM STILL YOUR MASTER! FOR NONE ARE POWERFUL AS I, HERE IN MY NIGHTMARE WORLD!



THEN, WHEN I FINALLY TIRE OF THE SIGHT OF YOU, I SHALL BANISH YOU TO THE WORLD OF NOTHINGNESS, FROM WHICH YOU SHALL NEVER RETURN!



OR, IF THE MOOD STRIKES ME, I CAN OPEN THE VERY GROUND BENEATH YOU, AND LET YOU DROP INTO THE BOTTOMLESS PIT-- A FALL WHICH WILL TAKE ALL ETERNITY TO COMPLETE!



NONE OF THESE THINGS ARE REAL! THEY ARE ALL MERELY HAPPENING TO YOU IN YOUR DREAM! BUT, THAT FACT IS OF SMALL COMFORT!

FOR, I CAN PREVENT THE DREAM FROM EVER ENDING! AND SO LONG AS YOU DREAM, YOUR FATE, YOUR DESTINY, YOUR VERY EXISTENCE IS IN MY HANDS!!



OF ALL THOSE I HAVE TOYED WITH, FROM EVERY PLANET, EVERY DIMENSION, EVERY GALAXY-- ONLY YOU HAVE DEFEATED ME IN THE PAST! AND THAT IS WHY YOU SHALL BE IN BOWDAGE TO ME! THAT IS WHY MY REVENGE WILL BE SO SWEET!!





I HAVE NO TRUE
POWER OVER
MORTAL
HUMANS! BUT,
WHEN YOU TOOK
YOUR OATH TO
SERVE THE
MYSTIC ARTS,
YOU MADE
YOURSELF MY
ENEMY--YOU
MADE YOUR-
SELF
VULNERABLE
TO ME!

ENOUGH! I WILL
HEAR NO MORE!!



I AM NOT AS POWERLESS AS YOU THINK! THE
FINAL VICTORY SHALL STILL BE MINE! AND NOW,
EVIL ONE--LOOK BEHIND YOU!!

WHAT USELESS TRICK ARE YOU
ATTEMPTING TO--NO!! WHAT
IS THAT??!



IT IS THE GULGOL--MY
MORTAL ENEMY FROM THE
NETHERWORLD!! HE MUST
HAVE PENETRATED MY
DEFENSES WHEN I CEN-
TERED MY ATTENTION ON
YOU! BUT NOW--HOW DID
YOU DO IT??

WHAT DOES
IT MATTER?
I DID WHAT
HAD TO BE
DONE!!



FOR AGES I HAVE GUARDED AGAINST
THE GULGOL! HE IS THE ONE FOE I CAN
NOT DEFEAT--FOR HE NEVER
SLEEPS!



MY POWER CAN
ONLY AFFECT THOSE
WHO ARE ASLEEP!!
BUT THE GULGOL
CANNOT BE STOPPED!
AND HE HAS SWORN
TO DESTROY ME!!



NOW THAT HE HAS
COME THIS FAR, MY
BARRIERS ARE TOO
WEAK TO HOLD HIM!
THIS IS THE MOMENT
I HAVE DREADED
SINCE THE BEGINNING
OF TIME!



I USED THE ONLY POWER EVEN YOU COULD NOT TAKE FROM ME!! THE POWER OF MY BRAIN-- MY INTELLIGENCE! MY ABILITY TO THINK OF A SCHEME TO DECEIVE YOU!

I KNEW HOW YOU FEARED THE GULGOL! SO WHEN I FOUND MYSELF DEPRIVED OF MY SPELLS, I RESORTED TO THE SIMPLEST OF TRICKS--A TRICK WHICH NEEDS NO MAGIC SPELL--I HYPNOTIZED YOU!

IT WAS EASY FOR ME TO BANISH THE GULGOL, FOR HE WAS NEVER HERE! I MADE YOU IMAGINE HIM!!



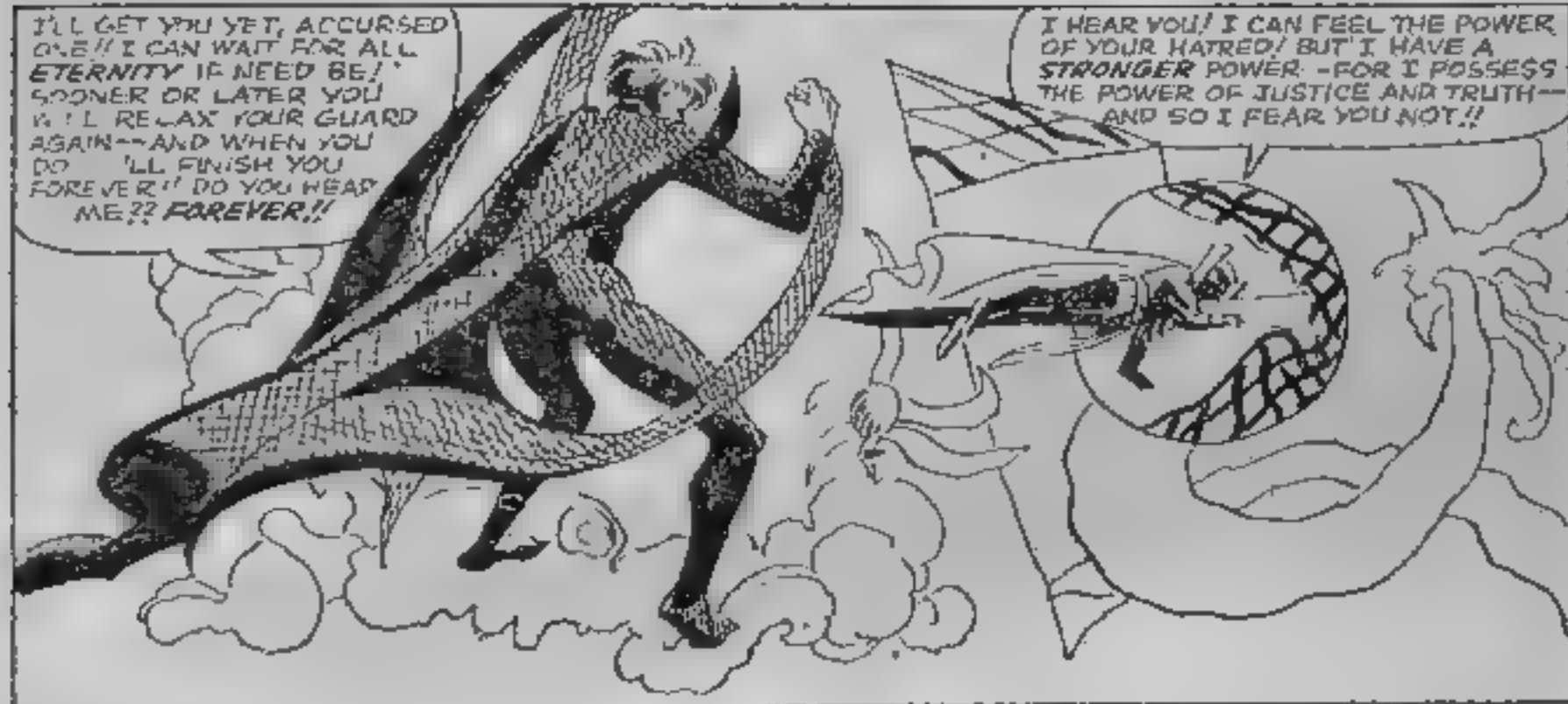
CURSE YOU!! YOU OUTSMARTED ME!! FOR THAT, I'LL MAKE YOU PAY WITH--NO! YOUR AMULET! TURN IT AWAY! I CANNOT BEAR THE LIGHT OF ITS BEAM!!

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN SO SOON? YOU RETURNED MY POWERS TO ME! YOU CAN THREATEN ME NO LONGER!



I'LL GET YOU YET, ACCURSED ONE!! I CAN WAIT FOR ALL ETERNITY IF NEED BE!! SOONER OR LATER YOU WILL RELAX YOUR GUARD AGAIN--AND WHEN YOU DO, I'LL FINISH YOU FOREVER!! DO YOU HEAR ME?? FOREVER!!

I HEAR YOU! I CAN FEEL THE POWER OF YOUR HATRED! BUT I HAVE A STRONGER POWER--FOR I POSSESS THE POWER OF JUSTICE AND TRUTH--AND SO I FEAR YOU NOT!!



MOMENTS LATER--OR, IS IT HOURS OR YEARS??--FOR TIME HAS NO MEANING IN THE NIGHTMARE DIMENSION--DR STRANGE AWAKENS, SAFE ONCE MORE IN THE SANCTUARY OF HIS CANDLELIT CHAMBER!

IT IS OVER! I HAVE WON!



DAWN IS BREAKING OVER THE CITY--THE CITY WHICH CANNOT SUSPECT THE STRANGE FORCES LURKING BEYOND THE BORDER OF MAN'S IMAGINATION! BUT, SO LONG AS THEY EXIST, JUST SO LONG WILL DR. STRANGE BE HERE TO BATTLE THEM, IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY!



THE END

HARK TO THESE WORDS, LOYAL READER--ONE DAY, MANY YEARS HENCE, YOU WILL PROUDLY RELATE THESE DR. STRANGE TALES TO A NEW GENERATION--A GENERATION WHICH WILL ENVY THE FACT THAT YOU WERE PRIVILEGED TO HAVE READ THE ADVENTURES OF DR. STRANGE.

THERE WAS NOTHING TO LOSE! THAT'S THE WAY LEO SAMPSON LOOKED AT IT! THE STRANGE PRISON
 WOULD MEAN FREEDOM. IF THEY WORKED! BUT FREEDOM FROM PRISON DIDN'T MEAN A NEW START
 TO THE VICIOUS CONVICT! IT MEANT NOT GETTING CAUGHT AGAIN TO SERVE A...

LIFE SENTENCE!



LEO SAMPSON SHRUGGED 'NO, IT WOULDN'T HURT HIM TO LISTEN TO A STRANGE VISITOR'.

THESE MR SAMPSON, ARE 'YOUTH PILLS'! NOW DON'T LAUGH... THEY REALLY WORK! EACH OF THESE PILLS WILL TAKE TEN YEARS OFF YOUR AGE! YOU'RE ABOUT FORTY-SEVEN? THEN TWO OF THESE PILLS WILL RETURN YOU TO THE AGE OF TWENTY-SEVEN!

TWENTY-SEVEN? THAT MEANS I'D HAVE TWENTY MORE YEARS TO SERVE OUT!

YOU DON'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND! YOU'VE BEEN HERE ABOUT A MONTH LESS THAN TWENTY YEARS, RIGHT? TAKING TWENTY YEARS TIME OFF YOUR AGE WOULD BRING YOU BACK TO THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE WHEN YOU WERE FREE!

MURDOCH YOU'RE EITHER CRAZY OR YOU'RE TRYING TO TRICK ME INTO TELLING YOU WHERE THAT LOOT IS HIDDEN!



BUT WHAT IF THOSE PILLS REALLY WORK? I'D BE OUT OF PRISON... FREE, BACK TWENTY YEARS!



THE EVENTS OF 1936 FLASHED THROUGH LEO SAMPSON'S MIND! IT HAD BEEN ON A NIGHT ONE MONTH SHORT OF 20 YEARS AGO! HE HAD PLANNED THE ROBBERY OF THE MORRISSEY WAREHOUSE, AND HAD NEARLY FINISHED THE JOB...



HE REMEMBERED HOW FAST HE'D THOUGHT...

THEY WON'T THINK OF LOOKING FOR THE DOUGH HERE. I'LL OPEN THE WINDOW, AND THEY'LL THINK I TOSSED IT OUT TO SOMEBODY WAITING OUTSIDE. THEN IF I'M CAUGHT AT LEAST I'LL KNOW WHERE TO LAY MY HANDS ON READY CASH!



AND HE REMEMBERED HEARING THE WATCHMAN NEARBY, AND HE HAD PANICKED, RUN... WHICH WAS HIS BIG MISTAKE!



LEO COULDN'T FORGET THAT MOMENT WHEN THE WAREHOUSE ALARM SHATTERED THE STILLNESS OF THE NIGHT



THEN HE MADE IT OUT, ALL RIGHT... INTO THE ARMS OF TWO PATROLMEN!



THE MEMORY OF THE DETECTIVES' GRILLING STAYED FRESH IN HIS MIND...



THEN THERE'D BEEN THE TRIAL, AND MORE QUESTIONS, BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY THIS TIME...



SO THE JURY HAD FOUND HIM GUILTY, AND HE HAD FIGURED ON A FIVE-YEAR TERM! AND HE'D NEVER FORGET THE SHOCK JUDGE HOLTON HAD IN STORE FOR HIM...



MORE THAN THOSE THOUGHTS FLASHED INTO LEO'S MIND! THERE WAS TREACHERY, TOO...



OKAY, MURDOCH, YOU'RE ON, BUT IF THIS IS A TRICK, I'LL TELL THE POLICE WHERE THE MONEY IS AND THEY'LL GET THERE FIRST!

HERE ARE THE PILLS! NOW, WHERE HAVE YOU HIDDEN THE TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS?



LEO GAVE MURDOCH THE INFORMATION, THEN TOSSED THE PILLS INTO HIS MOUTH AND SWALLOWED THEM. HE CHUCKLED TO HIMSELF...

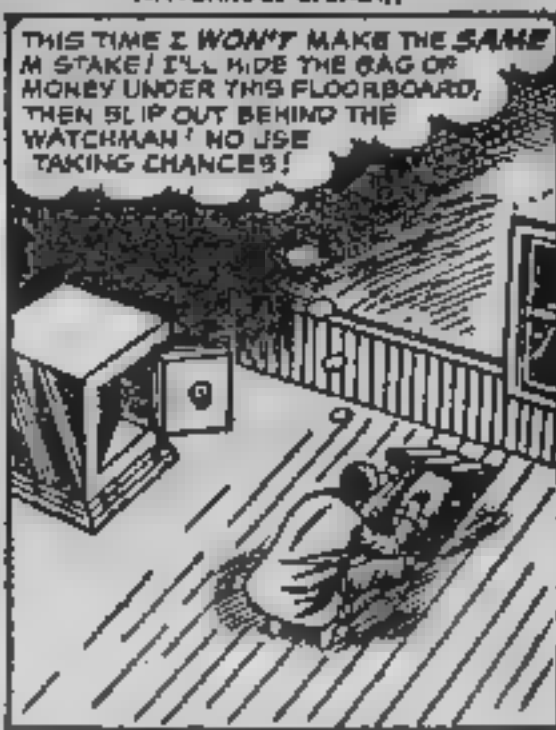
HE SUDDENLY FADED FROM SIGHT! FROM THAT MOMENT, LEO SAMPSON WAS NOT M ESSED! IT WAS AS THOUGH HE HAD NEVER BEEN INSIDE THAT PENITENTIARY!



FOR IT WAS 20 YEARS EARLIER FOR SAMPSON! HE HAD NOT YET BROKEN INTO THE MORGAN WAREHOUSE! BUT HE COULD STILL REMEMBER HAVING TAKEN THE AMAZING PILLS, AND THE MONEY HE HAD HIDDEN BENEATH THE FLOORBOARD, AND THAT VERY NIGHT...

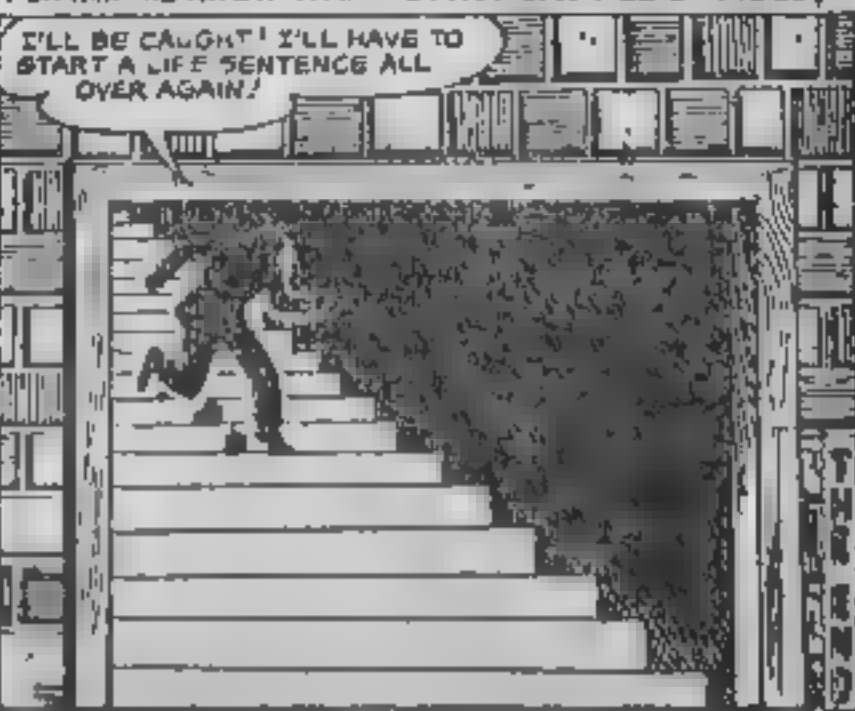
BUT THE MONEY WASN'T THERE AND SUDDENLY LEO UNDERSTOOD!

EVERYTHING WAS THE SAME AS THE LAST TIME LEO HAD DONE THIS... THE WATCHMAN CAME...



BUT HE DID MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE! LEO COULDN'T HELP HIMSELF! HE PANICKED, RAN...

THEN LEO SAMPSON WAS DASHING DOWN THE STAIRS, THE SAME CLAMOR OF THE BURGLAR ALARM SHOCKING HIS EARS! AND HE KNEW THE POLICE WOULD BE WAITING OUT FOR HIM! HE KNEW THAT THE PAST CAN'T BE CHANGED!



AN OLD HOUSE WITH A SPELL CAST ON IT? LEN COWRY SAID THAT WAS NONSENSE, SUPERSTITION OUT OF THE DARK AGES! WELL, THEN PERHAPS THERE WAS SOME OTHER EXPLANATION FOR THE STRANGE FATE THAT BEFELL LEN WHEN HE ENTERED...

the HOUSE OF EVIL!

I'M SORRY, MR. ELLIS,
BUT I'VE GOT A DATE
FOR TONIGHT!

THERE'S A LAUGH FOR YOU! THAT
OLD GUY TRYING TO DATE THE
WAITRESS! NOT THAT I BLAME HIM
FOR TRYING! SHE'S A PRETTY
GIRL!

A
**MYSTERY
TALE**
TO HOLD YOU
BREATHLESS!

A. TORRES L-127

THAT'S A REAL NERVY
'CUSTOMER, THAT OLD
FELLOW! DON'T TELL ME
YOU'VE EVER GONE
OUT WITH HIM?

NO, I HAVEN'T, BUT
I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM!
FRED ELLIS! HE'S LONELY,
LIVING ALL BY HIMSELF IN
THAT BIG OLD HOUSE!

I JUST GOT INTO WINTERVILLE
A COUPLE OF HOURS AGO MYSELF!
SO YOU SEE, I'M LONELY, TOO!
HOW ABOUT GOING OUT
WITH ME TONIGHT?

DON'T JOKE ABOUT
MR. ELLIS! I LIKE HIM
BUT I WON'T MARRY HIM
AND LIVE IN THAT HOUSE,
NOT FOR ALL HIS
MONEY!

LEN COWRY SUDDENLY BECAME VERY INTERESTED AT THE MENTION OF MONEY...



THE OLD GUY HAS A LOT OF MONEY IN THE BANK...AND HE'S ASKED YOU TO MARRY HIM, BUT YOU REFUSED?

OH, HE'S PECULIAR! HE KEEPS HIS MONEY HIDDEN IN HIS HOME! SOME SAY IT'S SIXTY THOUSAND OR SO! BUT I WOULDN'T LIVE THERE FOR ANYTHING! THAT'S A VERY STRANGE HOUSE!



WELL, FORGET THE OLD GUY! I MEANT THAT ABOUT GOING OUT WITH ME!

I GUESS IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT... I'M THROUGH HERE AT NINE-THIRTY!

LEN'S LOVE FOR JEAN WAS SECONDARY! HE HAD OLD FRED ELLIS'S MONEY FOREMOST ON HIS MIND! AND MAINLY FOR THAT REASON, HE DATED JEAN EVERY NIGHT OF THE WEEK...



LEN, YOU SAID YOU HAD SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO ASK ME...

YEAH, SWEETHEART, BUT NOT HERE! LET'S GO OUT ON THE BACK TERRACE!

HE HAD MADE SURE JEAN ROSS WOULD FALL FOR HIM...



I KNOW IT'S KIND OF QUICK, HONEY, BUT THAT'S THE WAY I AM! I WANT YOU, JEAN... WILL YOU MARRY ME?

I FELL FOR YOU THE FIRST NIGHT WE WENT OUT TOGETHER! YES, DEAR...I'LL MARRY YOU!



THAT'S WONDERFUL... BUT THERE'S ONE HITCH! I'M BROKE! I CAN'T ASK YOU TO SHARE MY POVERTY!

I'VE SAVED UP A FEW HUNDRED DOLLARS, LEN! AND I'VE GOT MY JOB! THERE'S PLENTY OF WORK HERE IN WINTERVILLE! WE'LL GET ALONG!



I WANT TO GIVE YOU EVERYTHING, HONEY, NOT TAKE FROM YOU! LISTEN, THAT OLD MAN, FRED ELLIS... YOU SAID HE'S GOT A LOT OF MONEY IN HIS HOUSE!

NOW, WAIT A MINUTE, LEN! WE'RE NOT GOING TO HURT THAT POOR FELLOW!

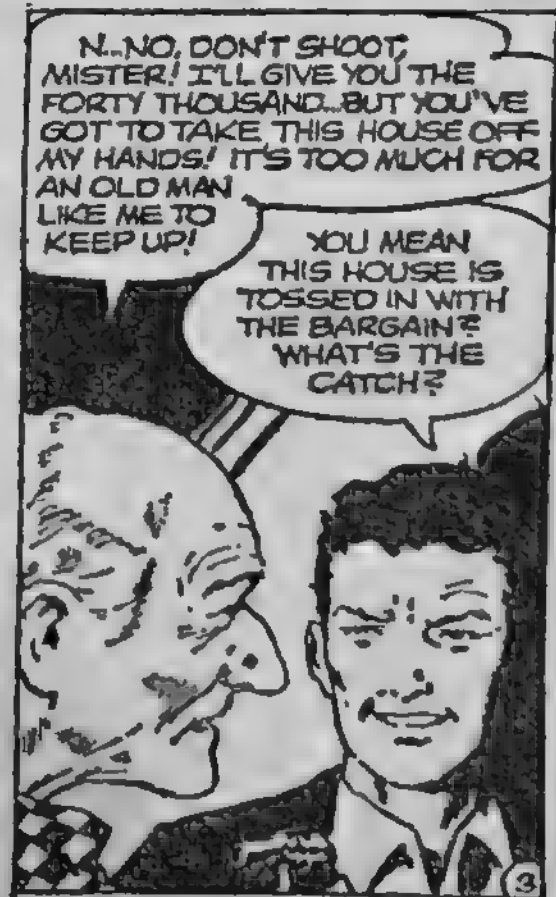


WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT HURTING HIM? SUPPOSING I DO TAKE FORTY THOUSAND... THAT STILL LEAVES HIM TWENTY! PLENTY FOR AN OLD GUY TO LIVE IN COMFORT THE REST OF HIS DAYS!

NO, LEN! I BEG YOU, KEEP AWAY FROM THAT HOUSE! IT'S GOT AN EVIL SPELL ON IT!




LEN AND JEAN SOON ARRIVED AT THE LONELY, ISOLATED, OLD HOUSE! SHE KNOCKED, AND HER VOICE QUIVERED...






IT'S WAITING FOR ME!



IT WAS A STRANGE, UNEARTHLY WORLD, AND ALWAYS HE WALKED THE SAME PATH, EACH NIGHT COMING CLOSER TO THE BEND AHEAD! HIS DOG **BANTY** MOVED NEXT TO HIM, NEVER LEAVING HIS SIDE, GROWLING AND BRISTLING WHEN THEY NEARED THE BEND, FOR BEYOND THAT BEND SOMETHING LURKED!



HE KNEW THAT SOMETHING WAITED, CROUCHED SHADOWS BEHIND THE BEND SOMETHING THAT DREW HIM TO IT AS THOUGH HE WAS HYPNOTIZED AND WITHOUT CONTROL OF HIS BODY

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BESIDE HIM, BANTY GROWLED AND SHOOK AGAINST HIS LEAD TRYING TO STOP HIM FROM GOING FURTHER WHINING NOW PLEADING FOR HIM TO STOP



THEN THE DOG, KNOWING HE COULDN'T STOP THE MASTER HE LOVED, RUSHED FORWARD AND AROUND THE BEND GROWLING AND WHINING...



HE COULD FEEL THE RELEASE OF PRESSURE! WHATEVER IT WAS THAT WAITED AROUND THE BEND, WAS AFRAID OF THE DOG AND HAD RETREATED!



THAT DREAM AGAIN! AGAIN AND AGAIN IT COMES! AND EVERYTIME I'M CLOSER TO THE BEND!



JIM, THE DOG HAS AWAKENED ME AGAIN! NIGHT AFTER NIGHT HE GROWLS AND CARRIES ON IN HIS SLEEP! YOU KNOW I DISLIKE ANIMALS! YOU'LL HAVE TO GET RID OF HIM!

NO, CORA, I'M NOT GETTING RID OF BANTY! HE WAS MY FRIEND AND COMPANION BEFORE WE WERE MARRIED AND I'M NOT GOING TO TURN HIM OUT NOW!



SO THE WRETCHED DOG COMES BEFORE ME!

CORA, PLEASE LET'S NOT ARGUE OVER THIS AGAIN! IT'LL BE LIGHT SOON! I'LL GO DOWN AND GET BREAKFAST STARTED!



HE KEEPS WAKING YOU! YOU'VE GOT TO GET SOME WEIGHT! YOU LOOK TERRIBLE!

POOR OLD BANTY IS WRECKING OUR MARRIED LIFE! BUT I CAN'T TELL HER ABOUT MY DREAM... CAN'T ADMIT THAT I WON'T GIVE BANTY AWAY BECAUSE I'M AFRAID!



THE PSYCHIATRIST SAID IT WAS ONLY A DREAM, A FRAGMENT OF MY IMAGINATION AND THAT ONCE I HAD ROUNDED THE BEND IN MY DREAM AND FACED WHATEVER IT IS THAT WAITS THERE, I WOULD BE FREE OF THE DREAM FROM THEN ON. MAYBE HE'S RIGHT, I DON'T KNOW!

JIM WENT TO WORK AND FORGOT ABOUT THE DREAM IN THE WEALTH OF DETAILS OF HIS JOB!



WHEN HE CAME HOME THAT EVENING CORA MET HIM WITH A SELF-SATISFIED GRIN!



CORA: I TOLD YOU I WANTED BANTY!

BUT JIM WOULD HAVE LONG AND AFFECTIONATE ALL DAY BE REASONABLE. HE'S CALLED ALL OUR ARGUMENTS AND I WANT OUR MARRIAGE TO WORK, BECAUSE I LOVE YOU, JIM.



I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT, CORA!

MAYBE THIS WILL SETTLE THAT DREAM STUFF. IT ISN'T RIGHT FOR A GROWN MAN TO PUT SUCH FANTASTIC FATH IN A MERE DOG JUST BECAUSE OF A DREAM!



THAT NIGHT, WHEN JIM WENT TO SLEEP, THE DREAM CAME AGAIN! BUT THIS TIME HE WAS ALONE ON THE ROAD, AND DREAM GRIPPED HIM AS A RELENTLESS PULL DRAGGED HIM NEARER THE BEND AND THE THING THAT WAITED...



HE AWOKES SUDDENLY!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, JIM? YOU YELLED OUT SO LOUD YOU AWAKENED ME!

NOTHING! JUST A SILLY DREAM! GO BACK TO SLEEP, CORA!



BUT THERE WAS NO LONGER ANY SLEEP FOR JIM. THAT NIGHT OR THE NEXT OR THE NEXT! HE PRETENDED TO SLEEP, THEN SPENT THE NIGHT KEEPING HIMSELF AWAKE! HE WAS AFRAID TO SLEEP... AND TO DREAM!

MUST STAY AWAKE! MUSTN'T FALL ASLEEP!



HE BECAME HLEGARD AND ILL! HE TOOK A WEEK OFF FROM WORK AT THE SUGGESTION OF HIS BOSS, WHO NOTICED HIS CONDITION! AND HE SPENT THAT WEEK TRYING TO FIND BANTY!



BANTY WAS WITH THE STODDARDS, AND THE STODDARDS HAD GONE! THAT NIGHT, HE LAY IN BED, TRYING TO KEEP AWAKE!

CHECK WITH THE POST OFFICE TOMORROW! THEY'LL KNOW WHERE THE STODDARDS AND BANTY HAVE GONE! THEN ... I'LL ...



BUT THE HUMAN BODY CAN STAND JUST SO MUCH! JIM SLEPT, AND HE WAS IN THAT WORLD AGAIN, THE BEAST WAS IN FRONT OF HIM, HE STEPPED AROUND IT!



HE KNEW THAT THE THING THAT WAITED HAD HIM! BUT SOMETHING BRUSHED BY HIM GROWLING ... AND HE AWOK!



AND HE CRAWLED ALL THE WAY HOME FROM WHERE THE STODDARDS WENT FOR HELP! OH! JIM, I DIDN'T REALIZE ...

AND JIM KNEW THEN THAT THE PSYCHIATRIST WAS WRONG! SOMEHOW, IN SLEEP HE HAD ENTERED SOME OTHER STRANGE WORLD WHERE SOMETHING HAD CALLED HIM, LURKING AND WAITING FOR HIM! BUT BANTY HAD COME AND FOUGHT FOR HIM, AND THE THING THAT WAITED WAS DEAD AND HE WOULD NEVER HAVE THAT DREAM AGAIN!



THE END

LUTHER GORDWIN LIFTED THE VEIL OF SECRECY FROM HIS MIRACULOUS MACHINE! AND WHAT THE ASTONISHED SCIENTISTS BEHELD WAS NOT NEARLY AS STARTLING AS THE EVIL EXPLOITS OF A MAN OF THE FUTURE... KNOWN AS MR. SUPREME!

THE TYRANT!





I'VE CHOSEN THE YEAR 2100... ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FOUR YEARS IN THE FUTURE!

THIS WILL INDEED BE THE WONDER OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY!

WITH A TURN OF A SWITCH, THE ROOM GREW DARK! A MOMENT LATER, THE SCIENTISTS SAW A SCENE OF THAT DISTANTLY FUTURE YEAR FLASH ONTO THE *FUTUREVISER'S* SCREEN!

HOW MUCH LONGER WILL WE HAVE TO ENDURE THIS *MR. SUPREME* OF OURS? THE TAXES WE PAY KEEP HIM IN FANTASTIC LUXURY!

EVERY SCIENTIFIC ADVANCEMENT SEEMS TO BE ACHIEVED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF KEEPING THAT TYRANT IN POWER!



THIS IS ONE OF THOSE SCIENTIFIC ADVANCEMENTS, GENTLEMEN! YOU ARE BEING WATCHED BY THE *SEARCHING EYE OF MR. SUPREME*! EVERY WORD YOU'VE SAID HAS BEEN RECORDED FOR USE AT YOUR TRIAL!

THERE'S NO PLACE LEFT WHERE IT'S SAFE FOR A MAN TO SPEAK HIS MIND! RUN, RANDOLPH... RUN!



AT FIRST LUTHER AND THE SCIENTISTS WATCHED THE DRAMA OF 2100 UNFOLD WITH DETACHED INTEREST! THEY SAW THE UNLUCKY PAIR FLEE IN FRIGHT! THEY SAW ROBOPOLICE RACE UP FROM ALL DIRECTIONS AND SURROUND THEM!

YOU SEE, ANOTHER INVENTION TO SERVE *MR. SUPREME*! NOW, YOU WILL REPORT AT ONCE TO THE TOWER OF PROSECUTION!



THE TWO MEN KNEW FURTHER ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE WAS USELESS! THEY WENT TO THE SILENT, GLOOMY TUNNEL LEADING TO THE TOWER...

MR. SUPREME, IS IT? THE MAN IS INHUMAN... A MONSTER, AS EVERYONE SAYS BEHIND HIS BACK! I INTEND TO SPEAK UP FOR MY RIGHTS!

SAY NOTHING, RANDOLPH! I BEG YOU! IT WILL ONLY GO HARDER WITH YOU!



MR. SUPREME HIMSELF TRIED ALL CASES OF WHAT HE CONSIDERED TO BE TREASON! SOON THE COUPLE STOOD BEFORE HIM...

NO MAN IN THIS NATION HAS THE RIGHT TO SPEAK AGAINST ME! I AM THE *LAW*! ONLY I HAVE RIGHT ON MY SIDE!

THE MAN IS A MONSTER! NO CONSCIENCE! GREEDY! BUT I'LL STICK TO HIM WHILE I REAP THE BENEFITS... AND I'LL TURN ON HIM WHEN THE PEOPLE HAVE ENDURED ALL THEY CAN AND REAP THEIR REVENGE!

GUARDS! THE MERE FACT THEY'VE BEEN ARRESTED IS ENOUGH EVIDENCE FOR ME TO ASSUME THEIR **GUILT!** ALL ARE SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS HARD LABOR IN THE MINES!



SOON THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE PEOPLE HE HAS WRONGED WILL RISE AGAINST HIM IN FURY!

YOU, WITH THE LOOSE TONGUE! MUST I SILENCE YOU?



SOON CAME THE FIRST RUMBLINGS OF THAT FURY, AND THEY REACHED THE EARS OF THE TYRANT...

HE KNOWS ABOUT THE PLOTTING! HAVE YOU TRIED EVERYTHING, GUARD?

HE'LL TALK SOON, MIGHTY EXCELLENCY! HE COMPLAINED OF A HEADACHE, SO I GAVE HIM A **TRUTH PILL!**



QUICKLY, THE TRUTH PILL WORKED! THE PRISONER FOUND HIMSELF UNABLE TO LIE OR WITHHOLD INFORMATION...

THESE PEOPLE WHO ARE AGAINST ME... WHERE CAN THEIR LEADERS BE FOUND?

NEARLY **ALL** THE PEOPLE ARE AGAINST YOU! THERE ARE A **THOUSAND** LEADERS! I AM **ONE** OF THEM! AND THERE ARE A THOUSAND UNDERGROUND CELLS! NO ONE LEADER KNOWS WHERE THE OTHERS ARE!



YOU LIE! MOST OF MY PEOPLE LOVE ME! THEY PLEDGE LOYALTY!

BEHIND YOUR BACK THEY CALL YOU MONSTER AND DESPISE YOU!



MR. SUPREME HURRIEDLY CALLED A MEETING OF HIS INNER COUNCIL...

IF WE CAN'T PUT DOWN REVOLT, WE'LL HAVE TO RUN INTO EXILE! I HAVE A FAST TRUCK READY... AND A DOZEN CHESTS OF GOLD!

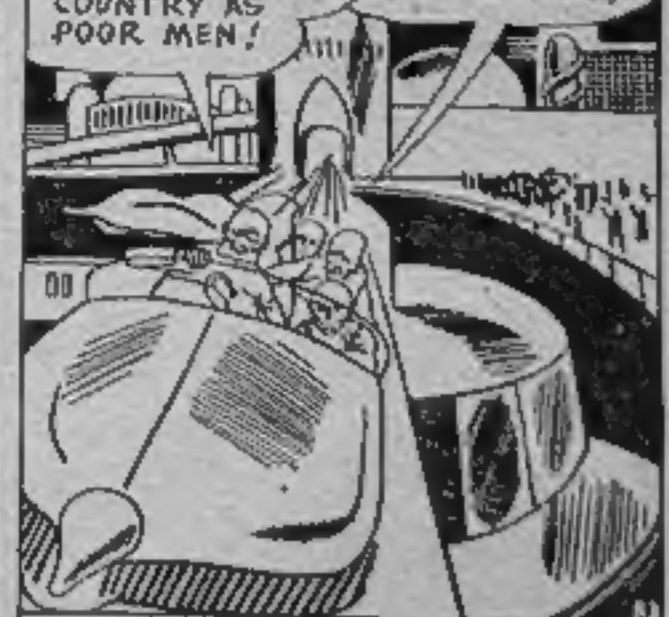
I, FOR ONE, WILL BE READY TO LEAVE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE!



THE ARMY JOINED THE PEOPLE IN STAMPING OUT THE REIGN OF MR. SUPREME...

AT LEAST WE'LL NOT LEAVE THIS COUNTRY AS POOR MEN!

WE'RE NOT YET OUT OF THE COUNTRY!





*COMPANION
COMICS IN
THIS SERIES*

AVAILABLE MONTHLY

★

SUSPENSE

★

SINISTER TALES

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CREEPY WORLDS

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SECRETS OF THE UNKNOWN

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PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW